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THE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(AUTHORISED EDITION),

FOURTH SERIES.

COMMENCING WITH THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE TWENTY-SIXTH PARLIAMENT

OF THE

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

62 VICTORIÆ.

VOLUME LXXVI,

COMPRISING THE PERIOD FROM THE SEVENTH DAY OF AUGUST
TO THE NINTH DAY OF AUGUST

AND THE

GENERAL INDEX FOR THE 1899 SESSION.

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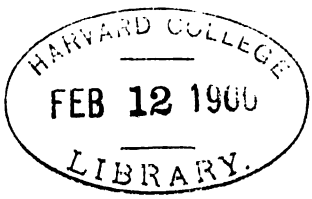

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The Secretary of State for the Home Department (Sir M. White Ridley, Lancashire, Blackpool) 129
Mr. T. P. O'Connor (Liverpool, Scotland) 130
The Financial Secretary to the Treasury (Mr. Hanbury, Preston)... 133
Mr. Pirie (Aberdeen, N.) ... 136
Sir J. Colomb (Great Yarmouth).. 139
The Under Secretary of State for War (Mr. Wyndham, Dover)... 143

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Question put, and agreed to.

Bill read a second time, and committed for To-morrow.

In pursuance of the Order of the House of the 17th day of July last, Mr. Speaker adjourned the House without Question put.

Adjourned accordingly at half-past Twelve of the clock.

LORDS: TUESDAY, 8TH AUGUST 1899.

RETURNS, REPORTS, &c.

VENEZUELA (1899) (BOUNDARY BETWEEN BRITISH GUIANA AND VENEZUELA) —No. 1. Case presented on the part of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty to the Tribunal of Arbitration constituted under Article I. of the Treaty concluded at Washington on the 2nd February 1897 between Her Britannic Majesty and the United States of Venezuela. No. 2. Counter Case presented on the part of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty to the Tribunal of Arbitration constituted under Article I. of the Treaty concluded at Washington on the 2nd February 1897 between Her Britannic Majesty and the United States of Venezuela. No. 3. Argument presented on the part on the Government of Her Britannic Majesty to the Tribunal of Arbitration constituted under Article I. of the Treaty concluded at Washington on the 2nd February 1897 between Her Britannic Majesty and the United States of Venezuela 145

ARMY—General Annual Return of the British Army for 1898; with Abstracts, &c. 145

NATIONAL GALLERY OF IRELAND—Report of the Director of the National Gallery of Ireland to the Board of Governors and Guardians, for the year 1898 145

PUBLIC WORKS (IRELAND)—Sixty-seventh Report of Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland, with Appendices, for the year ended 31st March, 1899 145

INLAND REVENUE—Forty-second Report of the Commissioner of Her Majesty's Inland Revenue, for the year ended 31st March, 1899 ... 145

POST OFFICE—Forty-fifth Report of the Postmaster-General on the Post Office 146

CUSTOMS—Forty-third Report of the Commissioners of Customs 146

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS—1. General Report to the Board of Trade upon the accidents that have occurred on the railways of the United Kingdom during the year 1898. 2. Returns of accidents and casualties as reported to the Board of Trade by the several railway companies in the United Kingdom during the six months ended 30th June, 1899; in pursuance of the Regulation of Railways Act (1871), 34th and 35th Victoria, chap. 78; together with reports of the inspecting officers of the Railway Department to the Board of Trade upon certain accidents which were inquired into ... 146

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BOILER EXPLOSIONS—Report to the Secretary of the Board of Trade upon the working of the Boiler Explosions Acts, 1882 and 1890; with Appendices (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper [C. 8994]) 146

MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT, 1894—Return of all British ships ordered by the Board of Trade or its officers, during the period from 1st July, 1898, to 30th June, 1899, to be provisionally detained as unsafe by reason of the defective condition of their hull equipments, or machinery, or by reason of overloading or improper loading, in pursuance of the provisions of Section 459 of the Act, giving the names of the owners of those ships which have been dismantled, broken up, or converted into hulks, &c.; also of all foreign ships ordered to be provisionally detained during the same period as unsafe by reason of overloading or improper loading, in pursuance of the provisions of Section 462 of the same Act; together with summaries showing respectively the total number of ships ordered to be detained as unsafe, from 1st July, 1898, to 30th June, 1899, and since the 1st October, 1876, distinguishing between those cases in which the ships were found safe or unsafe (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper [C. 8947]) ... 146

BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES (SCOTLAND)—Forty-third Detailed Annual Report of the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths, and Marriages in Scotland (Abstracts of 1897) 147

HORSE-BREEDING—Seventh Report of the Royal Commission on Horse-Breeding 147

COMMERCIAL, No. 5, 1899—Despatch from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Berlin, transmitting notification from German *Imperial Gazette*, regulating commercial relations with the British Empire 147

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS (IRELAND)—I. General Abstracts showing the acreage under crops, also the number and descriptions of live stock in each county and province, for 1898-99. II. Tables showing the extent, in statute acres, and the produce of the crops, for the year 1899. III. (Migratory Labourers.) Report and Tables relating to migratory agricultural labourers, for the year 1899 147

MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, AND DEATHS (IRELAND)—Thirty-fifth Annual Report of the Registrar-General, for the year 1898 147

CRIMINAL AND JUDICIAL STATISTICS (IRELAND)—Part I. Criminal Statistics for the year 1896. Part I. Criminal Statistics for the year 1897. Part II. Civil Statistics for the year 1898. Presented [by Command], and ordered to lie on the Table 147

SUPERANNUATION ACT, 1887—Return for the year ended 31st March, 1899, of the Army and Navy officers permitted under Rule 2 of the regulations drawn up under Section 6 of the Act to hold civil employment of profit under public Departments 148

SUPERANNUATION—Treasury Minutes, dated 1st August, 1899, declaring that Thomas Cooper, postman, Scarborough, in the service of the Post Office, and James Darby, labourer, Royal Laboratory, War Office, were appointed without civil service certificates through inadvertence on the part of the heads of their Departments 148

CLERGY (WEST INDIES)—Return of the amount payable on 5th January, 1899, out of the Consolidated Fund for ecclesiastical purposes in the West Indies 148

LOCAL TAXATION RETURNS (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1881—Annual Local Taxation (Scotland) Returns for the year 1897–98 148

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MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS—Charters of Incorporation of the boroughs of Abergavenny, Bridlington, Dukinfield, and Leigh, dated 2nd August, 1899 148

IRISH LAND COMMISSION (PURCHASE OF LAND (IRELAND) ACT, 1891)—Return of Advances under the Act during the year ended the 31st March, 1899 148

FORESHORES—Treasury Minute directing the application of moneys received by the Board of Trade in the year ended 31st March, 1899, in respect of the rights and interests of the Crown in the foreshores of the United Kingdom 148

POST OFFICE (TELEGRAPHS)—Telephone Regulations dated 31st July, 1899 ... 148

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1888—Part I. Orders under Section 57 of the Act, as confirmed by the Local Government Board, of the following County and County Borough Councils :—

1. Bucks, for constituting the Parishes of Chartridge and Latimer from the Parish of Chesham, and transferring the same from the Urban District of Chesham to the Rural District of Amersham.

2. Derby, for transferring the Rural Parish of Codnor-cum-Loscoe to the Urban District of Heanor.

3. Derby and Nottingham, and Nottingham County Borough, for uniting the Parishes of Bashford, Bulwell, North Wilford, and Nottingham to form the Parish of Nottingham.

4. Devon, for transferring part of the Parish of Salcombe Regis from the Honiton Rural District to the Parish and Urban District of Tanfield.

5. Durham, for transferring part of the Urban District of Annfield Plain to the Parish and Urban District of Tanfield.

6. Essex, for the conversion of the Parish of Brentwood into the Brentwood Urban District.

7. Essex, for transferring certain areas from the Parish of Wanstead to the Parish of Woodford, and transferring certain areas from the Parish of Woodford to the Parish of Wanstead.

8. Lancaster, for constituting the Parish of Heysham an Urban District.

9. Lancaster, for altering the name of the Township of Tottington Lower End to Tottington, and constituting the new Township an Urban District.

10. Lancaster, for transferring part of the Township of Wheelton to the Township and Urban District of Whitnell.

11. Nottingham, for uniting the Parish of Park Leys to the Parish of Kelham.

12. Somerset, for dividing the Parish of Ilminster into the two separate Parishes of Ilminster and Ilminster Without, and constituting the new Parish of Ilminster an Urban District.

13. Southampton, for adding a part of the Parish of Bishopstoke to the Eastleigh Urban District.

14. Surrey, for constituting the Parish of Caterham an Urban District.

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15. East Sussex, for uniting the Parish of Norway to the Parish of Eastbourne.

16. Wilts, for uniting the Parishes of Cricklade Saint Mary and Cricklade Saint Sampson to form the Parish of Cricklade.

17. North Riding of Yorkshire, for (i.) dividing the Parish of Kirkleatham into the Parishes of Coatham and Kirkleatham; (ii.) transferring the new parish of Kirkleatham to the Guisborough Rural District; and (iii.) adding the new Parish of Coatham to the area of the Redcar Urban District.

18. West Riding of Yorkshire, for constituting the Townships of Outwood and Stanley an Urban District.

Part II. Orders under Section 59 of the Act as confirmed by the Local Government Board of the following County Councils:

1. Derby, for Amending the County of Derby (Heanor Urban District Extension) Confirmation Order, 1899.

2. Hertford, for altering the County of Hertford (Rickmansworth) Confirmation Order, 1899.

3. Surrey, for altering the County of Surrey (Caterham Urban District) Confirmation Order, 1889.

4. Surrey, for Amending the County of Surrey (Reigate) Confirmation Order, 1894.

5. West Riding of Yorkshire, for Amending the West Riding of Yorkshire (Bingley, &c.) Confirmation Order, 1898.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACT, 1890—Statements of modification permitted by the Local Government Board in the following Improvement Schemes under Part I. of the Act—1. Portsmouth Improvement Scheme, 1894; 2. Salford Improvement Scheme, 1891; 3. Sunderland Improvement Scheme, 1894. Laid before the House [pursuant to Act], and ordered to lie on the Table 150

HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE (CHANCERY DIVISION)—Her Majesty's Answer to the Address of the 3rd instant delivered by the Captain of the Yeomen of the Queen's Guard (*E. Waldegrave*), and read as follows, viz.:—

I have received your Address praying that, in pursuance of the eighteenth section of the Appellate Jurisdiction Act, 1876, an additional Judge may be appointed to the High Court of Justice in the Chancery Division thereof, and I will issue directions in accordance with your desire.

Agriculture and Technical Instruction (Ireland) Bill; Sale of Food and Drugs Bill; Small Houses (Acquisition of Ownership) Bill—Returned from the Commons, with the Amendments agreed to 151

Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Bill—Returned from the Commons, with the Amendments agreed to, with an Amendment. The said Amendment considered [on motion], and agreed to 151

Cottage Homes Bill (No. 215); METROPOLITAN GAS COMPANIES (No. 216); AGED DESERVING POOR (No. 217)—Reports, &c., of the Select Committees of the House of Commons; Communicated pursuant to message of the 4th instant, and to be printed 151

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QUESTIONS.

IRISH LAND COMMISSION—Question, Viscount Templetown; Answer, The Earl of Denbigh 151

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—Standing Order No. XXXIX. to be considered To-morrow, in order to its being suspended for that day's sitting 152

House adjourned at Twenty-five minutes before Five of the clock.

COMMONS, TUESDAY, 8TH AUGUST, 1899.

RETURNS, REPORTS, &c.

CLERGY (WEST INDIES)—Return [presented 7th August]; to be printed. (No. 345.) 153

BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES, AND VACCINATION (SCOTLAND)—Copy presented,—of Forty-third Detailed Annual Report of the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths, and Marriages in Scotland (Abstracts of 1897) [by Command]; to lie upon the Table 153

DEER FORESTS, HIGHLAND CROFTING COUNTIES (ARGYLLSHIRE, INVERNESS-SHIRE, ROSS AND CROMARTY, SUTHERLAND, CAITHNESS, AND ORKNEY AND SHETLAND)—Return presented,—relative thereto [ordered 17th March; *Mr. Weir*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 346.) ... 153

MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS (SCOTLAND) (REPRODUCTIVE UNDERTAKINGS)—Return presented,—relative thereto [ordered 23rd March; *Sir John Leng*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 347.) 153

LOCAL TAXATION (SCOTLAND)—Copy presented,—of the Annual Local Taxation Returns (Scotland) for the year 1897–8 [by Act]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 348.) 153

ARMY—Copy presented,—of General Annual Return of the British Army for the year 1898, with Abstracts, &c. [by Command]; to lie upon the Table 153

RAILWAYS ACCIDENTS—Copy presented,—of Returns of Accidents and Casualties as reported to the Board of Trade by the several Railway Companies in the United Kingdom during the six months ending 30th June, 1899, together with Reports of the Inspecting Officers of the Railway Department to the Board of Trade upon certain Accidents which were inquired into [by Command]; to lie upon the Table 153

RAILWAYS ACCIDENTS (GENERAL REPORT)—Copy presented,—of General Report to the Board of Trade upon the Accidents that have occurred on the Railways of the United Kingdom during the year 1898 [by Command]; to lie upon the Table 154

MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT, 1894 (VESSELS DETAINED)—Copy presented,—of Return of all Ships ordered by the Board of Trade, or its Officers, to be provisionally detained as unsafe, together with Summaries, etc. [by Command]; to lie upon the Table 154

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BOILER EXPLOSIONS ACTS, 1882 AND 1890—Copy presented,—of Report to the Secretary of the Board of Trade upon the Working of Boiler Explosions Acts, 1882 and 1890, with Appendices (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper, C. 8994) [by Command]; to lie upon the Table ... 154

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE (INDIAN SECTION)—Return presented,—relative thereto [Address 27th July; *Sir Mancherjee Bhownaggree*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 349.) 154

MADRAS LAND REVENUE—Return presented,—relative thereto [Address 31st July; *Sir William Wedderburn*]; to lie upon the Table 154

HORSE BREEDING (ROYAL COMMISSION)—Copy presented,—of Seventh Report of the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding [by Command]; to lie upon the Table 154

RAILWAYS IN IRELAND (STATE ADVANCES)—Return presented,—relative thereto [ordered 9th May; *Mr. Field*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 350.) 154

CHANNEL ISLANDS (CROWN RIGHTS)—Return presented,—relative thereto [ordered 12th June; *Sir Charles Dilke*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 351.) 154

APPOINTMENTS OPEN TO RETIRED SOLDIERS—Return presented,—relative thereto [ordered 16th June; *Colonel Long*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 352.) 155

EXPENDITURE ON CAPITAL ACCOUNT RECENTLY AUTHORISED BY PARLIAMENT Return presented,—relative thereto [ordered 4th August; *Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 353.) 155

IRISH LAND COMMISSION (PURCHASE OF LAND (IRELAND) ACT, 1891)—Copy presented,—of Return of Advances under the Act during the year ended 31st March, 1899 [by Act]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 354.) 155

POST OFFICE (TELEGRAPHS)—Copy presented—of Telephone Regulations, dated 31st July, 1899 [by Act]; to lie upon the Table 155

FORESHORES—Copy presented,—of Treasury Minute, dated 7th August, 1899, directing the application of Moneys received by the Board of Trade in the year ended 31st March, 1899, in respect of the rights and interests of the Crown in the Foreshores of the United Kingdom [by Act]; to lie upon the Table 155

SUPERANNUATION ACT, 1884—Copy presented—of Treasury Minute, dated 1st August, 1899, declaring that Thomas Cooper, Postman, Scarborough, Post Office Department, was appointed without a Civil Service Certificate through inadvertence on the part of the Head of his Department [by Act]; to lie upon the Table 155

SUPERANNUATION ACT, 1887—Copy presented,—of Return for the year ended 31st March, 1899, of the Army and Navy officers permitted, under Rule 2 of the Regulations drawn up under Section 6 of the Act, to hold civil employment of profit under public department [by Act]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 355.) 155

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ISLE OF MAN—Account presented,—of Revenue and Expenditure for the year ended 31st March, 1899, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor-General thereon [by Act]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 356.) 155

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1888—Copies presented,—of Orders made by the various County and County Borough Councils in England and Wales under Sections 57 and 59 of the Act, as confirmed by the Local Government Board [by Act]; to lie upon the Table 156

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACT, 1890—Copies presented,—of Statements of modification permitted by the Local Government Board in certain Improvement Schemes under Part I. of the Act [by Act]; to lie upon the Table 156

COUNTY COURTS (PLAINTS AND SITTINGS)—Return presented,—relative thereto [Address 3rd August; *Mr. Jesse Collings*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 357.) 156

COLONEL MITCHELL'S PETITION OF RIGHT—Return presented,—relative thereto [Address 7th August; *Mr. Ernest Gray*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 358.) 156

MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS (NEW CHARTERS) (LEIGH, LANCASHIRE)—Copy presented,—of Charter of Incorporation of the Borough of Leigh, Lancashire, dated 2nd August, 1899 [by Act]; to lie upon the Table 156

MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS (NEW CHARTERS) (DUKINFIELD)—Copy presented,—of Charter of Incorporation of the Borough of Dukinfield, dated 2nd August, 1899 [by Act]; to lie upon the Table 156

MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS (NEW CHARTERS) (BRIDLINGTON)—Copy presented,—of Charter of Incorporation of the Borough of Bridlington, dated 2nd August, 1899 [by Act]; to lie upon the Table 156

MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS (NEW CHARTERS) (ABERGAVENNY)—Copy presented,—of Charter of Incorporation of the Borough of Abergavenny, dated 2nd August, 1899 [by Act]; to lie upon the Table 156

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS (IRELAND)—Copy presented,—of Tables showing the extent in statute acres, the produce of crops for the year 1899, &c. [by Command]; to lie upon the Table 157

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS (IRELAND)—Copy presented,—of General Abstracts showing the acreage under crops, also the number and description of live stock in each County and Province for 1898–9 [by Command]; to lie upon the Table 157

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS (IRELAND) (MIGRATORY LABOURERS)—Copy presented,—of Report and Tables relating to Migratory Agricultural Labourers for the year 1899 [by Command]; to lie upon the Table ... 157

MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, AND DEATHS (IRELAND)—Copy presented,—of Thirty-fifth Annual Report of the Registrar-General, being for the year 1898 [by Command]; to lie upon the Table 157

CRIMINAL AND JUDICIAL STATISTICS (IRELAND)—Copy presented—of Criminal and Judicial Statistics of Ireland for the year 1896. Part I. Criminal Statistics [by Command]; to lie upon the Table 157

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CRIMINAL AND JUDICIAL STATISTICS (IRELAND)—Copy presented, of Criminal and Judicial Statistics of Ireland for the year 1897. Part I. Criminal Statistics [by Command]; to lie upon the Table 157

CRIMINAL AND JUDICIAL STATISTICS (IRELAND)—Copy presented, of Criminal and Judicial Statistics of Ireland for the year 1898. Part II. Civil Statistics [by Command]; to lie upon the Table 157

COMMERCIAL RELATIONS (GREAT BRITAIN AND GERMANY) (COMMERCIAL, No. 5, 1899)—Copy presented,—of Despatch from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Berlin transmitting Notification from German Imperial Gazette, regulating Commercial Relations with the British Empire [by Command]; to lie upon the Table 157

VENEZUELA (No. 1, 1899)—Copy presented,—of the Case presented on the part of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty to the Tribunal of Arbitration constituted under Article I. of the Treaty concluded at Washington on the 2nd February 1897, between Her Britannic Majesty and the United States of Venezuela respecting the settlement of the Boundary between British Guiana and the United States of Venezuela [by Command]; to lie upon the Table 158

VENEZUELA (No. 2, 1899)—Copy presented,—of Counter Case presented on the part of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty to the Tribunal of Arbitration constituted under Article I. of the Treaty concluded at Washington on the 2nd February 1897, between Her Britannic Majesty and the United States of Venezuela, respecting the settlement of the Boundary between British Guiana and the United States of Venezuela [by Command]; to lie upon the Table 158

VENEZUELA (No. 3, 1899)—Copy presented,—of Argument presented on the part of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty to the Tribunal of Arbitration constituted under Article I. of the Treaty concluded at Washington on the 2nd February 1897, between Her Britannic Majesty and the United States of Venezuela, respecting the settlement of the Boundary between British Guiana and the United States of Venezuela [by Command]; to lie upon the Table 158

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES—Return ordered,—"of the names, objects, or business places where business is or was conducted, date of registration, number of persons who signed the Memorandum of Association, total number of shares taken up by such subscribers, nominal capital, number of shares into which it is divided, number of shares taken up, amount of calls made on each share, and the total amount of calls received, of all joint stock companies formed since the 1st day of January 1898 to the 31st day of December 1898, inclusive, distinguishing whether the companies are limited or unlimited, and also the number of shareholders in each of the said companies at the date of the last Return, and whether still in operation or being wound up; Of the total number having their registered offices in the City of London, or within five miles of the General Post Office; And of the total number and the paid-up capital of all registered companies which are believed to be carrying on business at the present time."—(*Mr. Ritchie.*) Return presented accordingly; to lie upon the Table, and be printed. (No. 359.) 158

TITHE RENT-CHARGE (GRANTS TO COUNTIES AND BOROUGHS)–Return ordered,—"showing the share of each of the Administrative Counties and County Brroughs of England and Wales in a sum of £87,000, distributed in proportion to the shares which the Local Government Board certified under Section 22 of the Local Government Act, 1888, to have been received during the year ended the 31st day of March 1888, out of the Grants from the Exchequer discontinued after the passing of that Act."—(*Mr. Carvell Williams.*) 159

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT (IRELAND) ACT, 1898, AND REGISTRATION (IRELAND) ACT, 1898 (ORDERS AND RULES)—Copies ordered,—"of Orders made by the Lord Lieutenant in Council, and of Orders and Rules, or in certain cases Schedules enumerating Orders and Rules, made by the Local Government Board for Ireland under or in consequence of the provisions of the Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898, and of The Registration (Ireland) Act, 1898; also, of Rules of Court and of County Court Rules made in relation to the said Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898."—(*Mr. Gerald Balfour.*) Copies presented accordingly; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. [No. 360.] 159

QUESTIONS.

DEVONPORT DOCKYARD AUTHORITIES AND THE PRESS—Question, Mr. E. J. C. Morton (Devonport); Answer, The Secretary to the Admiralty (Mr. Macartney, Antrim, S.) 159

UNDER AGE RECRUITS—Question, Mr. William Abraham (Cork County, N.E.); Answer, The Under Secretary of State for War (Mr. Wyndham, Dover) 160

CARTAGE OF AMMUNITION—Question, Mr. Bryn Roberts (Carnarvonshire, Eifion); Answer, The Under Secretary of State for War (Mr. Wyndham, Dover) 160

ASSAM—CULTIVATION AND COLONISATION—Question, Mr. J. H. Roberts (Denbighshire, W.); Answer, The Secretary of State for India (Lord George Hamilton, Middlesex, Ealing) 161

INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAMS—Question, Sir Charles Dilke (Gloucestershire, Forest of Dean); Answer, The Secretary of State for India (Lord George Hamilton, Middlesex, Ealing) 162

CABLE COMMUNICATION WITH THE EAST—Question, Sir Charles Dilke (Gloucestershire, Forest of Dean); Answer, The Secretary of State for the Colonies (Mr. J. Chamberlain, Birmingham, W.) 163

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ACTS IN SOUTH AFRICA—Question, Mr. H. J. Wilson (Yorkshire, W.R., Holmfirth); Answer, The Secretary of State for the Colonies (Mr. J. Chamberlain, Birmingham, W.) 163

FOREIGN TELEGRAPHIC RATES—Question, Sir Edward Sassoon (Hythe); Answer, The Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Brodrick, Surrey, Guildford) 164

MUZZLING ORDER IN THE METROPOLIS—Question, Mr. Perks (Lincolnshire, Louth); Answer, The President of the Board of Agriculture (Mr. Long, Liverpool, West Derby) 164

WALES AND THE LICENSING COMMISSION'S REPORT — Question, Mr. J. H. Roberts (Derbyshire, W.); Answer, The Secretary of State for the Home Department (Sir M. White Ridley, Lancashire, Blackpool) 165

PENSIONS FOR THE AGED DESERVING POOR—Questions, Sir Howard Vincent (Sheffield, Central), and Mr. Lewis (Flint Boroughs); Answers, The Secretary to the Local Government Board (Mr. T. W. Russell, Tyrone, S.) 165

GLYCERINATED CALF LYMPH—Questions, Mr. Labouchere (Northampton), and Sir Walter Foster (Derbyshire, Ilkeston); Answers, The Secretary to the Local Government Board (Mr. T. W. Russell, Tyrone, S.)... 166

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PARISH COUNCIL EXPENDITURE—Question, Sir Walter Foster (Derbyshire, Ilkeston); Answer, The Secretary to the Local Government Board (Mr. T. W. Russell, Tyrone, S.) 168

LLANDUDNO FORESHORE—OUTDOOR RELIGIOUS SERVICES—Question, Mr. Perks (Lincolnshire, Louth); Answer, The Solicitor-General (Sir R. B. Finlay, Inverness Burghs) 169

CHATHAM DOCKYARD—Question, Mr. Woods (Essex, Walthamstow); Answer, The Financial Secretary to the Treasury (Mr. Hanbury, Preston) ... 169

CENTRAL TELEGRAPH OFFICE STAFF—Question, Mr. Steadman (Tower Hamlets, Stepney); Answer, The Financial Secretary to the Treasury (Mr. Hanbury, Preston) 170

IRISH MAIL SERVICE—Question, Mr. Arthur Moore (Londonderry); Answer, The Financial Secretary to the Treasury (Mr. Hanbury, Preston) ... 171

MEMBERS' CORRESPONDENCE—Question, Sir Howard Vincent (Sheffield, Central); Answer, The Financial Secretary to the Treasury (Mr. Hanbury, Preston) 171

BELMULLET POLICE STATION—Question, Mr. Crilly (Mayo, N.); Answer, The Chief Secretary for Ireland (Mr. G. W. Balfour, Leeds, Central) 172

ESSAGE FROM THE LORDS—That they have agreed to—Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Bill. Amendments to Amendments to—Derwent Valley Water Bill,—and to the Consequential Amendment to the Bill, without Amendment 172

That they communicate Copies of Reports from the Select Committees appointed by their Lordships in the present Session of Parliament on—1. Companies Bill; 2. Copyright Bill and Copyright (Artistic) Bill; together with the Proceedings of the Committees and Minutes of Evidence, as desired by this House 173

PUBLIC BUSINESS.

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE—Resolved, That this House do meet To-morrow at Ten of the clock, a.m.—(*Mr. Secretary Chamberlain*) 173

Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill—Considered in Committee, and reported, without Amendment; to be read the third time To-morrow ... 173

EAST INDIA REVENUE ACCOUNTS—Order for Committee read.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair."

DISCUSSION:—

The Secretary of State for India (Lord George Hamilton, Middlesex, Ealing) ... 173

Mr. Caldwell (Lanark, Mid) ... 192

Sir William Wedderburn (Banffshire) 195

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Amendment proposed—

"To leave out from the word 'that' to the end of Question, in order to add the words, "under the existing procedure the superintending authority of Parliament over Indian affairs is not effectively exercised; that the salary of the Secretary of State for India should be placed on the Estimates; that the Debate on the Indian Budget should be appointed for an earlier day in the session; and that, with a view to the more effectual discharge by this House of its existing duty to the unrepresented Indian taxpayer, the East India Accounts should each year be referred to a Select Committee, with instructions to report on any special features deserving the attention of the House'—(*Mr. Caldwell*)—instead thereof."

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question."

DISCUSSION:—

Colonel Milward (*Warwickshire, Stratford-on-Avon*) 201
Mr. Harwood (*Bolton*) ... 204
Sir H. H. Fowler (*Wolverhampton, E.*) 208

Question put.

The House divided:—Ayes, 95; Noes, 36. (Division List, No. 363.)

Main Question again proposed.

DISCUSSION:—

Sir M. M. Bhownaggree (*Bethnal Green, N.E.*)... 218
Mr. Pickersgill (*Bethnal Green, S.W.*) 225
Sir Alfred Hickman (*Wolverhampton, W.*) ... 229
Mr. Perks (*Lincolnshire, Louth*)... 230
Colonel Sandys (*Lancashire, Bootle*)... 230
Mr. Kimber (*Wandsworth*) ... 231
Mr. J. H. Roberts (*Derbyshire, W.*)... 232
Mr. Wylie (*Dumbartonshire*) ... 235
Mr. Keswick (*Surrey, Epsom*)... 240
Sir H. H. Fowler 241
Lord George Hamilton... ... 246

Question put, and agreed to.

Considered in Committee.

[Mr. ARTHUR O'CONNOR (Donegal, East) in the Chair.]

Resolved, That it appears by the Accounts laid before this House that the Total Revenue of India for the year ending on the 31st day of March, 1898, was Rx.96,442,004; that the Total Expenditure in India and in England charged against Revenue was Rx.101,801,215; that there was an excess of expenditure over Revenue of Rx.5,359,211; and that the capital outlay on Railways and Irrigation Works not charged against Revenue was Rx.4,328,541.—(*Secretary Lord George Hamilton.*)

Resolution to be reported.

In pursuance of the Order of the House of the 17th day of July last, Mr. Speaker adjourned the House without Question put.

House adjourned accordingly at twenty-five minutes before Eleven of the clock.

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LORDS: WEDNESDAY, 9TH AUGUST 1899.

JUDICIAL BUSINESS—Ordered, That this House do meet on Monday, the 13th day of November next, at Eleven o'clock, for the purpose of hearing and determining Appeals and matters connected therewith, pursuant to the provisions of the "Appellate Jurisdiction Act, 1876"; and that during such meeting of the House leave be given to the Appeal Committee to meet 253

MARQUESS OF HEADFORT (CLAIM TO VOTE FOR REPRESENTATIVE PEERS FOR IRELAND)—Ordered and Directed, That a Certificate be sent by the Clerk of the Parliaments to the Clerk of the Crown in Ireland, stating that the Lord Chancellor of the United Kingdom has reported to the House of Lords that the right of the Marquess of Headfort to vote at the elections of Representative Peers for Ireland has been established to the satisfaction of him the said Lord Chancellor; and that the House of Lords has ordered such Report to be sent to the said Clerk of the Crown in Ireland; And it is hereby also Ordered, That the said Report of the said Lord Chancellor be sent to the Clerk of the Crown in Ireland 253

RETURNS, REPORTS, &c.

REFORMATORY AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS (IRELAND)—Thirty-seventh Report of the Inspector; presented [by Command], and ordered to lie on the Table 253

FOREIGN JURISDICTION ACT, 1890—Order in Council of 8th August, 1899—entitled, "The Ottoman Order in Council, 1899" 253

INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT ACTS—Orders in Council of 8th August, 1899—(i) giving effect to the accession of Japan to; and (ii) giving effect to the withdrawal of Montenegro from the International Copyright Union respectively 253

BRITISH SETTLEMENTS ACT, 1887, AND FOREIGN JURISDICTION ACT, 1890—Order in Council of 8th August, 1899, entitled, "The Pacific Order in Council, 1893, Amendment Order, 1899" 253

WINTER ASSIZES ACT, 1876—Seven Orders in Council, of 8th August, 1899, relating to the ensuing Winter Assizes 253

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1897—Treasury Order of 19th June, 1898, regulating fees under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897 253

SUPERANNUATION—Treasury Minute, dated 3rd August, 1899, declaring that Dr. Robert J. Mitchell, Inspector of Registration, General Register Office, Ireland, was appointed without a Civil Service certificate, through inadvertence on the part of the head of his Department 253

ARKLOW HARBOUR—Report of Arklow Harbour Commissioners for 1898, and Statement of Accounts. Laid before the House [pursuant to Act], and ordered to lie on the Table 253

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—Standing Order No. XXXIX. considered [according to Order], and suspended for this day's sitting 253

CONSOLIDATED FUND (APPROPRIATION) BILL—Brought from the Commons, and read the first time; then (Standing Order No. XXXIX. having been suspended) Bill read a second time—(*The Earl Waldegrave*); Committee negatived; Bill read the third time, and passed 253

House adjourned during pleasure; House resumed.

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ROYAL ASSENT.

COMMISSION—The following Bills received the Royal Assent:—1. Consolidated Fund (Appropriation); 2. Bodies Corporate (Joint Tenancy); 3. University of London Act (1898) Amendment; 4. Anchors and Chain Cables; 5. Seats for Shop Assistants; 6. Summary Jurisdiction Act (1879) Amendment; 7. Isle of Man (Customs); 8. Manchester Canonries; 9. Marriages Validity (No. 2); 10. Metropolitan Police; 11. Electric Lighting (Clauses); 12. Commons and Open Spaces; 13. Improvement of Land; 14. Colonial Loans; 15. Inebriates Act (1898) Amendment; 16. Naval Works: 17. Telegraphs (Telephonic Communication); 18. Board of Education; 19. Elementary Education (Defective and Epileptic Children); 20. Poor Law Acts Amendment; 21. Royal Niger Company; 22. Land Tax Commissioners' Names; 23. Patriotic Fund; 24. Reserve Forces; 25. Military Works; 26. Lincolnshire Coroners; 27. Expiring Laws Continuance; 28. Public Works Loans; 29. Baths and Washhouses Acts Amendment; 30. Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland); 30. Agricultural and Technical Instruction (Ireland); 32. Sale of Food and Drugs; 33. Small Houses (Acquisition of Ownership); 34. Gas Orders Confirmation (No. 2); 35. Local Government Provisional Order (No. 14); 36. Tramways Orders Confirmation (No. 2); 37. Tramways Orders Confirmation (No. 3); 38. Electric Lighting Provisional Order (No. 20); 39. Education Department Provisional Order Confirmation (London); 40. Tancred's Charities Scheme Confirmation; 41. London and North-Western Railway (Additional Powers); 42. Renfrew Burgh and Harbour Extension; 43. Caledonian Railway (General Powers); 44. Aberdeen Joint Passenger Station; 45. Leigh-on-Sea Urban District Council; 46. Moss Side Urban District Council (Tramways); 47. Stretford Urban District Council (Tramways); 48. Withington Urban District Council (Tramways); 49. Weston-super-Mare, Clevedon, and Portishead Tramways Company (Light Railway Extensions); 50. Yeadon and Guiseley Gas; 51. South Staffordshire Tramways; 52. Darwen Corporation; 53. Warrington Corporation; 54. Worcestershire County Council; 55. Glasgow and South-Western Railway; 56. Great Eastern Railway (General Powers); 57. Great Yarmouth Water; 58. North-Eastern Railway; 59. North Staffordshire Railway; 60. Wolverhampton Tramways; 61. Hastings Harbour; 62. Oystermouth Railway or Tramroad; 63. Bootle Corporation; 64. Dublin Corporation (Markets); 65. London County Council (General Powers); 66. London County Council (Money); 67. Clyde Navigation; 68. Cromer Protection; 69. Oldham Corporation; 70. North-Eastern and Hull and Barnsley Railways (Joint Dock); 71. Fylde Water Board; 72. Salford Corporation; 73. Wakefield Corporation; 74. Belfast Corporation; 75. City and Brixton Railway; 76. Gateshead and District Tramways; 77. London, Walthamstow, and Epping Forest Railway (No. 2); 78. West Metropolitan Railway; 79. Bexhill and Rotherfield Railway; 80. Birmingham, North Warwickshire, and Stratford-upon-Avon Railway; 81. London and South-Western Railway; 82. Manchester Corporation Tramways; 83. Paisley and Barrhead District Railway; 84. Portsmouth Corporation; 85. Rochdale Canal; 86. Southport and Lytham Tramroad; 87. Wolverhampton Corporation; 88. Workington Corporation; 89. North-West London Railway; 90. Brompton and Piccadilly Circus Railway; 91. Leeds Corporation; 92. Charing Cross, Euston, and Hampstead Railway; 93. Newcastle-upon-Tyne Tramways and Improvement; 94. London Improvements; 95. Harrow and Uxbridge Railway; 96. Uxbridge and Rickmansworth Railway; 97. Derwent Valley Water; 98. Bradford Tramways and Improvement 255

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QUEEN'S SPEECH—Her Majesty's Most Gracious Speech was delivered to both Houses of Parliament by the Lord High Chancellor (in pursuance of Her Majesty's Commands), as followeth :—

"*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

"My relations with other Powers continue to be friendly.

"The Conference summoned by the Emperor of Russia to consider measures for promoting the maintenance of peace has completed its sittings. Although the result of its deliberations has not fully corresponded with the lofty aims which it was summoned to accomplish, it has met with a considerable measure of success. The institution of a permanent tribunal of arbitration cannot fail to diminish the frequency of war, while the extension of the Geneva Convention will mitigate its horrors.

"I have concluded a Convention with the President of the French Republic, by which the spheres of influence of the two Powers over a large portion of Northern Africa have been determined. Such an Agreement had become necessary, especially in respect to the Valley of the Nile, in consequence of the successful operations of the Anglo-Egyptian Army during last autumn.

"I have concluded an Agreement with the Emperor of Russia for regulating the conditions under which either Government will encourage development of railway enterprise by its own subjects in China.

"I have received a Petition from a considerable number of My subjects residing in the South African Republic, praying for My assistance to obtain the removal of grievances and disabilities of which they complain. The position of My subjects in the South African Republic is inconsistent with the promises of equal treatment, on which My grant of internal independence to that Republic was founded; and the unrest caused thereby is a constant source of danger to the peace and prosperity of My Dominions in South Africa. Negotiations on this subject with the Government of the South African Republic have been entered into, and are still proceeding.

"From My Indian Empire I have continued to receive satisfactory reports of the rapid recovery of agriculture and trade from the depression caused by the late famine, but during the last few weeks the rainfall has been insufficient over a portion of Western and Central India, and fears are entertained as to the prospects of the harvests in those regions. My officers are carefully watching the situation, and timely precautions to meet any scarcity, should it occur, will be adopted. I regret to add that the plague, though still confined to the areas affected last winter, shows no signs of abatement.

"*Gentlemen of the House of Commons.*

"I thank you for the liberality with which you have provided for the Naval and Military defence of My Empire.

"*My Lords and Gentlemen.*

"The formal inclusion within My Empire of the territories occupied by the Royal Niger Company will facilitate the good administration of that region, and the effective defence of its frontier.

"I have had great satisfaction in giving My assent to a Bill for completing the organisation of Municipal Government in London. I do not doubt that the inhabitants of the various portions of this Metropolis will derive from it the benefits which similar institutions have conferred upon other cities and towns in this country.

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"I have also gladly sanctioned Bills for the simplification of private legislation in Scotland, for the encouragement of agricultural and technical education in Ireland, for the better distribution of the supply of water in the Metropolis, for the removal of an injustice in regard to the incidence of rates under which the beneficed owners of tithe rent-charge have too long suffered, and for securing the purity of certain articles of food and drugs. I trust that the Bill which you have passed for consolidating the educational departments, and extending their powers, will tend to the improvement and completion of our education system. The measures you have passed for facilitating the acquisition of the ownership of small houses by those who occupy them will be of considerable advantage to the working classes in many parts of the country.

"I pray that the blessing of Almighty God may attend upon the fruit of your labours for the benefit of My people."

Then a Commission for proroguing the Parliament was read.

After which the LORD CHANCELLOR said:

"*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

"By virtue of Her Majesty's Commission, under the Great Seal, to us and other Lords directed, and now read, we do, in Her Majesty's Name, and in obedience to Her Commands, prorogue this Parliament to Friday the twenty-seventh day of October next, to be then here holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Friday the twenty-seventh day of October next."... 260

COMMONS: WEDNESDAY, 9TH AUGUST 1899.

The House met at Ten of the clock.

PETITIONS.

Chairmen of Boards of Guardians Bill—Petition from Sedbergh, in favour; to lie upon the Table 260

POOR LAW AMENDMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1845—Petitions for alteration of law;—From Kiltearn;—and, Logierait; to lie upon the Table 260

Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday Bill—Petition from Tutbury, in favour; to lie upon the Table 260

RETURNS, REPORTS, &c.

Companies Bill—Paper [communicated 8th August] to be printed. (No. 361) 261

Copyright Bill and Copyright (Artistic) Bill—Paper [communicated 8th August] to be printed. (No. 362) 261

FOREIGN JURISDICTION ACT, 1890—Copy presented,—of Order in Council of the 8th August, 1899, entitled, The Ottoman Order in Council, 1899 [by Act]; to lie upon the Table 261

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BRITISH SETTLEMENTS ACT, 1887, AND FOREIGN JURISDICTION ACT, 1890—Copy presented,—of Order in Council of the 8th August, 1899, entitled, The Pacific Order in Council (1893) Amendment Order, 1899 [by Act]; to lie upon the Table 261

INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT ACTS, 1844 TO 1886—Copy presented,—of Order in Council of the 8th August, 1899 (i) giving effect to the accession of Japan to, and (ii) giving effect to the withdrawal of Montenegro from, the International Copyright Union, respectively [by Act]; to lie upon the Table 261

WINTER ASSIZES ACTS, 1876 AND 1877—Copy presented,—of Seven Orders in Council of the 8th August, 1899, relating to the ensuing Winter Assizes [by Act]; to lie upon the Table 261

TITHE RENT-CHARGE (GRANTS TO COUNTIES AND BOROUGHS)—Return presented,—relative thereto [ordered 8th August; *Mr. Carvell Williams*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 363) 261

REFORMATORY AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS (IRELAND)—Copy presented,—of Thirty-seventh Report of the Inspector [by Command]; to lie upon the Table 261

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS (CONTRACTS)—Return presented, — relative thereto [ordered 7th July; *Mr. Logan*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 364) 262

SUPERANNUATION ACT, 1884—Copy presented,—of Treasury Minute, dated 3rd August 1899, declaring that Dr. Robert John Mitchell, Inspector of Registration, General Register Office, Ireland, was appointed without a Civil Service Certificate; through inadvertence on the part of the head of his Department [by Act]; to lie upon the Table 262

ARKLOW HARBOUR—Copy presented,—of Report of the Arklow Habour Commissioners and Statement of Accounts for 1898 [by Act]; to lie upon the Table 262

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1897—Copy presented,—of Treasury Order, dated 16th June 1898, regulating Fees under The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897 [by Act]; to lie upon the Table 262

PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS—Mr. SPEAKER laid upon the Table:—List of the Bills, Reports, Estimates, and Accounts and Papers printed by order of the House, and of Papers presented by Command, Session 1899, with a General Alphabetical Index thereto, 26th Parliament, Fifth Session, 62 and 63 Vic., 7th February 1899 to 9th August 1899; to be printed. (No. 365) 262

HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE, CHANCERY DIVISION (ADDITIONAL JUDGE)—The Comptroller of the Household reported Her Majesty's Answer to the humble Address of the 31st July, as followeth:—

"I have received your Address praying that, in pursuance of the eighteenth section of the Appellate Jurisdiction Act, 1876, an additional Judge may be appointed to the High Court of Justice in the Chancery Division thereof, and I will issue directions in accordance with your desire" ... 262

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QUESTIONS.

TRANSVAAL AFFAIRS—Questions, Sir E. Ashmead-Bartlett (Sheffield, Ecclesall), Mr. T. P. O'Connor (Liverpool, Scotland), and Sir Wilfrid Lawson (Cumberland, Cockermouth); Answers, The Secretary of State for the Colonies (Mr. J. Chamberlain, Birmingham, W.) 263

RUSSIA, CHINA, AND JAPAN—Question, Sir E. Ashmead-Bartlett (Sheffield, Ecclesall); Answer, The Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Brodrick, Surrey, Guildford) 264

SOLICITORS AND PARLIAMENTARY PRACTICE—Question Mr. Ellis J. Griffith (Anglesey); Answer, The Solicitor-General (Sir R. B. Finlay, Inverness Burghs) 264

TELEPHONIC COMMUNICATION—Questions, Sir James Woodhouse (Huddersfield), and Mr. Provand (Glasgow, Blackfriars); Answer, The Financial Secretary to the Treasury (Mr. Hanbury, Preston)... 264

Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill—Order for Third Reading read.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Bill be now read the third time."

Amendment proposed—

"To leave out the word 'now,' and at the end of the Question to add the words 'upon this day three months.'"—(*Mr. Ure.*)

Question proposed, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question."

DISCUSSION:—

The Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Brodrick, Surrey, Guildford) 267
Mr. Provand (Glasgow, Blackfriars) 268
Sir E. Ashmead-Bartlett (Sheffield, Ecclesall) ... 268
Mr. T. P. O'Connor (Liverpool, Scotland) 269
The Secretary of State for the Colonies (Mr. J. Chamberlain, Birmingham, W.) 272

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Main Question put, and agreed to.

Bill read the third time, and passed.

MESSAGE FROM THE LORDS—That they have agreed to,—Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill, without Amendment 274

ROYAL ASSENT—Message to attend the Lords Commissioners. The House went; and the Royal Assent was given to a number of Bills. (See House of Lords Report this day; *ante* page 255.) 274

And afterwards Her Majesty's Most Gracious Speech was delivered to both Houses of Parliament by the Lord High Chancellor (in pursuance of Her Majesty's Commands) 274

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Then a Commission for proroguing the Parliament was read.

After which the LORD CHANCELLOR said :

"*My Lords, and Gentlemen,*

"By virtue of Her Majesty's Commission, under the Great Seal, to us and other Lords directed, and now read, we do, in Her Majesty's Name, and in obedience to Her Commands, prorogue this Parliament to Friday the twenty-seventh day of October next, to be then here holden ; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Friday the twenty-seventh day of October next."

END OF THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE FOURTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF HER MAJESTY.

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THE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(*AUTHORISED EDITION*)

IN THE

FIFTH SESSION OF THE *TWENTY-SIXTH PARLIAMENT* OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF *GREAT BRITAIN* AND *IRELAND*, APPOINTED TO MEET THE 7TH FEBRUARY 1899, IN THE 62ND YEAR OF THE REIGN OF

HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA.

ELEVENTH VOLUME OF SESSION 1899.

An Asterisk (*) at the commencement of a Speech indicates revision by the Member.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Monday, 7th August 1899.

PRIVATE BILL BUSINESS.

BRADFORD TRAMWAYS AND IMPROVEMENT BILL.

BROMPTON AND PICCADILLY CIRCUS RAILWAY BILL.

CHARING CROSS, EUSTON, AND HAMPSTEAD RAILWAY BILL.

HARROW AND UXBRIDGE RAILWAY BILL.

LEEDS CORPORATION BILL.

LONDON IMPROVEMENTS BILL.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE TRAMWAYS AND IMPROVEMENTS BILL.

NORTH-WEST LONDON RAILWAY BILL.

UXBRIDGE AND RICKMANSWORTH RAILWAY BILL.

Returned from the Commons, with the Amendments agreed to.

DERWENT VALLEY WATER BILL.

Returned from the Commons, with the Amendments agreed to, with Amendments, and a consequential Amendment to the Bill; the said Amendments and consequential Amendment considered, and agreed to.

RETURNS, REPORTS, &c.

EDUCATION (SCOTLAND).

Report for the year 1899, by Sir Henry Craik, K.C.B., on the inspection of higher class schools and the examination for leaving certificates.

TUNIS, No. 1. (1899.)

Return of Exports from Great Britain and France to Tunis during the years 1880, 1885, 1890, 1895, and 1897.

TRADE REPORTS—ANNUAL SERIES.

No. 2326. Finances of Italy.

No. 2327. Trade and general condition of British Central Africa Protectorate.

No. 2328. Portugal (Chinde).

HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS (ROYAL COMMISSION).

Report on the Manuscripts of—

I.—1. J. M. Heathcote, Esq., of Conington Castle.
2. J. B. Fortescue, Esq., of Dropmore, Volume III.
3. The Welsh Language, Volume II., W. R. M. Wynne, Esq., of Penarth.
4. The Marquess of Salisbury, K.G., Part VIII.
5. F. W. Leyborne-Popham, Esq., of Littlecote.
6. The Duke of Portland, Volume V.

II.—Appendix to the Fifteenth Report on the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts, Part X., the Manuscripts of Shrewsbury Corporation, etc.

IRISH LAND COMMISSION (PROCEEDINGS).

Return of proceedings during the months of March, April, and May, 1899.

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NATIONAL EDUCATION (IRELAND).

Appendices (Sections ii., iii., iv., and v.) to the Annual Report of the Commissioners, 1898-99.

PUBLIC RECORDS (IRELAND).

Thirty-first Report of the Deputy Keeper of the Records.

BANKING, RAILWAY, AND SHIPPING STATISTICS (IRELAND).

Report for June, 1899.

LUNACY (IRELAND).

Forty-eighth Report (with Appendices) of the Inspectors of Lunatics in Ireland.

LOCAL TAXATION (IRELAND).

Returns for the year 1898.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD (IRELAND).

Annual Report for the year ended 31st March, 1899.

Presented (by Command), and ordered to lie on the Table.

INTERMEDIATE EDUCATION (IRELAND).

Receipts and Expenditure of the Intermediate Education Board for Ireland, for the year ended 31st December, 1898; together with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor-General thereon.

POLICE ACT, 1890.

Correspondence relative to the refusal of the Secretary of State's Certificate, under Section 17 (2) of the Act, to the River Tyne Police Force for the year ended 29th September, 1898.

Laid before the House (pursuant to Act), and ordered to lie on the Table.

PRIVATE BILLS—STANDING ORDERS.

THE CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES (The Earl of MORLEY): My Lords, the Amendments to the Standing Orders this year are apparently very large in number, and occupy eleven pages of your Lordships' Paper. But they are, with very few exceptions, formal alterations, a great many of them being the result of the Irish Local Government Act coming into force. The Amendments to Standing Orders 38 and 111, which deal with the rehousing of the working classes displaced by any undertaking, are not formal. The first Amendment gives a definition of the word "house." It was thought that, at the present moment, "house" might include a very large tenement, such as are being erected all over the metropolis for the housing of many hundreds of the working classes. It is quite clear that "house" ought not to cover such a tenement, and therefore a definition of the word is given in the Standing Orders to avoid all further misunderstanding on the point. The definition adopted is:

"The expression 'house' means any tenement separately occupied by any person or persons."

The other point to which attention has been called during the past session is that the provisions of the Standing Order, especially in London, have in certain cases been a good deal evaded. There was the notable case of the London School Board, which, instead of taking twenty houses under one Bill, brought in a series of Bills for a small number of houses, and thus evaded the Standing Order. Other authorities and companies, we are given to understand, have, in certain cases, also evaded the Standing Order, and Amendments to Standing Orders 38 and 111 have been made, which are designed to meet these evasions.

Standing Orders considered and amended, and to be printed as amended. (No. 214.)

HOUSE OF LORDS OFFICES.

Second Report of the Select Committee considered (according to Order), and agreed to.

LINCOLNSHIRE CORONERS BILL. [H.L.]

Commons Amendments considered (according to Order), and agreed to.

EXPIRING LAWS CONTINUANCE BILL.

PUBLIC WORKS (LOANS) BILL.

TANCRED'S CHARITIES SCHEME CONFIRMATION BILL.

Read 3ª (according to Order), and passed.

BATHS AND WASHHOUSES ACTS AMENDMENT BILL.

House in Committee (according to Order): Bill reported without Amendment: Standing Committee negatived: Then Standing Order No. XXXIX. considered (according to Order), and dispensed with: Bill read 3ª, and passed.

House adjourned at twenty minutes before Five of the clock, till To-morrow, at a quarter past Four of the clock.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, 7th August 1899.

PRIVATE BILL BUSINESS.

BRADFORD TRAMWAYS AND IMPROVEMENT BILL.

Lords Amendments considered, and agreed to.

STANDING ORDERS.

Ordered, That the Standing Orders of this House, as amended, be printed.—(*Mr. James William Lowther.*) (No. 336.)

PETITIONS.

GROUND RENTS (TAXATION BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES).

Petition from Royton, in favour; to lie upon the Table.

H.M.S. "GANGES."

Petition from Falmouth, against removal from Falmouth; to lie upon the Table.

MINES (EIGHT HOURS) BILL.

Petition from Atherton, in favour; to lie upon the Table.

POOR LAW AMENDMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1845.

Petition from Ayr, for alteration of Law; to lie upon the Table.

RETURNS, REPORTS, ETC.

INLAND REVENUE.

Copy presented, — of Forty-second Report of the Commissioners (for the year ended 31st March 1899) [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

CUSTOMS.

Copy presented,—of Forty-third Report of the Commissioners of Customs (for the year ended 31st March 1899) [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

POST OFFICE.

Copy presented,—of Forty-fifth Report of the Postmaster-General [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

NATIONAL GALLERY (IRELAND).

Copy presented,—of Report of the Director to the Board of Governors and Guardians for the year 1898 [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

PUBLIC WORKS (IRELAND).

Copy presented,—of Sixty-seventh Annual Report of the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland, with Appendices, for the year ending 31st March, 1899 [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

CIVIL SERVICE CLERKSHIPS (CLASS I.).

Return presented,—relative thereto [ordered 6th July; *Mr. Tritton*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 337.)

CLERGY (WEST INDIES).

Copy presented,—of Return of the Amount payable on 5th January 1899, out of the Consolidated Fund for Ecclesiastical purposes in the West Indies [by Act]; to lie upon the Table.

SUPERANNUATION ACT, 1884.

Copy presented,—of Treasury Minute, dated 1st August 1899, declaring that James Darby, Labourer, Royal Laboratory, War Office, was appointed without a Civil Service Certificate through inadvertence on the part of the Head of his Department [by Act]; to lie upon the Table.

HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS (ROYAL COMMISSION.)

Copy presented,—of Report on the Manuscripts of the Duke of Portland. Vol. V. [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

Copy presented,—of Report on the Manuscripts of the Marquess of Salisbury, K.G., Part VIII. [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

Copy presented,—of Report on Manuscripts in the Welsh Language. Vol. II. W. R. M. Wynne, esquire, of Penarth [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

Copy presented,—of Report on the Manuscripts of J. M. Heathcote, esquire, of Conington Castle [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

Copy presented,—of Report on the Manuscripts of J. B. Fortescue, esquire, of Dropmore. Vol. III. [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

Copy presented,—of Report on the Manuscripts of F. W. Leybourne-Popham,

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esquire, of Littlecote, [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

Copy presented,—of Appendix to the Fifteenth Report of the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts, Part X. The Manuscripts of Shrewsbury Corporation, &c. [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

POLICE ACT, 1890.

Copy presented,—of Correspondence relative to the refusal of the Secretary of State's Certificate under Section 17 (2) of the Act to the River Tyne Police Force, for the year ended 29th September, 1898 [by Act]; to lie upon the Table.

NATIONAL EDUCATION (IRELAND).

Copy presented,—of Section II. of the Appendix to the Sixty-fifth Report of the Commissioners [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

NATIONAL EDUCATION (IRELAND).

Copy presented,—of Section III. of the Appendix to the Sixty-fifth Report of the Commissioners [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

NATIONAL EDUCATION (IRELAND).

Copy presented,—of Section IV. of the Appendix to the Sixty-fifth Report of the Commissioners [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

NATIONAL EDUCATION (IRELAND).

Copy presented,—of Section V. of the Appendix to the Sixty-fifth Report of the Commissioners [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

BANKING, RAILWAY, AND SHIPPING STATISTICS (IRELAND).

Copy presented,—of Report for the half year ended 30th June, 1899 [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

PUBLIC RECORDS (IRELAND).

Copy presented,—of Thirty-first Report of the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records and Keeper of the State Papers in Ireland [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

LUNACY (IRELAND).

Copy presented,—of Forty-eighth Report, with Appendices, of Inspectors of Lunatics (Ireland) [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD (IRELAND.)

Copy presented,—of Annual Report for the year ended 31st March, 1899, with Appendices [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

LOCAL TAXATION (IRELAND) RETURNS.

Copy presented,—of Returns for the year 1898 [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

SECONDARY EDUCATION (SCOTLAND.)

Copy presented,—of Report for the year 1899 by Sir Henry Craik, K.C.B., on the Inspection of Higher Class Schools in Scotland, and the Examination for Leaving Certificates [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

GAS UNDERTAKINGS.

Return presented, relative thereto [ordered 16th May; *Mr. Ritchie*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 338.)

GAS UNDERTAKINGS (LOCAL AUTHORITIES).

Return presented, — relative thereto [ordered 16th May; *Mr. Ritchie*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 339.)

METROPOLITAN WATER COMPANIES (ACCOUNTS).

Return presented, — relative thereto [ordered 9th June; *Mr. T. W. Russell*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 340.)

Papers laid upon the Table by the Clerk of the House:—

1. INQUIRY INTO CHARITIES (COUNTY OF CARMARTHEN).

Further Return relative thereto [ordered 10th February, 1898; *Mr. Grant Lawson*] to be printed. (No. 341.)

2. INQUIRY INTO CHARITIES (COUNTY OF LANCASTER).

Further Return relative thereto [ordered 8th August, 1898; *Mr. Grant Lawson*] to be printed. (No. 342.)

3. INTERMEDIATE EDUCATION (IRELAND).

Accounts of Receipts and Expenditure for 1898, with Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] to be printed. (No. 343.)

COLONEL MITCHELL'S PETITION OF RIGHT.

Address for "Return of Copy of Petition of Right, dated the 5th day of November, 1888, and presented by Colonel E. Mitchell."—(*Mr. Ernest Gray.*)

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VACCINATION (CERTIFICATES OF SUCCESS).

Return ordered, "showing, in respect of each Poor Law Union in England and Wales, the number of Certificates of Successful Primary Vaccination received by the vaccination officer or officers during the periods between 1st January and 30th June (both days inclusive) in the years 1898 and 1899 respectively."—(*Mr. T. W. Russell.*)

Return presented accordingly; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 344.)

QUESTIONS.

NAVY ESTIMATES.

SIR J. COLOMB (Great Yarmouth): I beg to ask the First Lord of the Admiralty whether he will cause a table to be added to the Appendix of the Navy Estimates next year, showing the sums provided for each branch of the Naval Service, viz., executive, engineers, other branches, and Royal Marine Force, so as to furnish information for the Navy corresponding to that given for the Army in Appendix 21, Army Estimates.

THE FIRST LORD OF THE ADMIRALTY (Mr. GOSCHEN, St. George's, Hanover Square): I understand that the statement attached to the Army Estimates, to which the hon. and gallant Gentleman refers, is designed to show the total cost of each arm of the Service, and is practically a redistribution of the Army Estimates. In the case of the Army it is practicable to prepare such a statement without much difficulty, as the Estimates mainly provide for the maintenance of a certain force of officers and men, and are not complicated by the introduction of estimated expenditure of manufacturing establishments. In the case of the Navy Estimates, the preparation of a similar statement would be attended with great difficulties, and would entail considerable clerical labour and additional expense, disproportionate to the value of the information when obtained.

THE "BULLFINCH" DISASTER.

SIR EDWARD GOURLEY (Sunderland): I beg to ask the First Lord of the Admiralty what steps have been taken for the purpose of ascertaining the cause of the accident to the machinery of the torpedo catcher "Bullfinch"; whether the relatives of the men who lost their lives, as well as those injured in a similar breakdown off Sunderland, are to be compensated by the Admiralty; and will he also state whether in future trial trips are to be accompanied by medical officers.

MR. GOSCHEN: An investigation as to the cause of the accident is being made by the coroner for the purpose of the usual public inquiry. The matter is also being investigated by the Admiralty Staff. The Admiralty will take care that the men belonging to the Service who were injured, and also the dependent relatives of those in the Service who have lost their lives, shall receive compensation; but I am not yet in a position to state from what source the compensation will be paid. In the accident on board the "Lee," at Sunderland, no men belonging to the service were injured. I prefer not to answer the last question until after the inquest has been held.

SIR FORTESCUE FLANNERY (Yorkshire, Shipley): And how about the men in the employment of the contractors?

MR. GOSCHEN: I presume they will be compensated by their employers.

CALLIOPE DOCK, AUCKLAND.

MR. HOGAN (Tipperary, Mid.): I beg to ask the First Lord of the Admiralty whether it is proposed to establish an effective coaling station in connection with the Calliope Dock at Auckland, New Zealand; and whether he is aware that the Governor of New Zealand recently referred to the difficulty experienced in promptly coaling Her Majesty's ship "Tauranga" at Auckland.

MR. GOSCHEN: It is proposed to do what is necessary for the purpose of providing an efficient dock at Auckland, but I do not wish, in connection with this subject, to use language which may cause disillusionment afterwards.

CARTAGE OF LIVE SHELLS.

MR. BRYN ROBERTS (Carnarvonshire, Eifion): I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for War whether he is aware that 1 ton 2 cwt. 3 qr. 22 lb. of live

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shells were, on the 10th of May, delivered to Mr. Thomas Roberts, of Aber, Bangor, for cartage by his teams from the station to the Aber Battery, with a carrier's note describing them as ordinary stores; and that, in consequence, the filled shells were handed to farm labourers to be carted to the battery without any warning as to the dangerous nature of the goods and the necessity for great care in handling the same; whether the goods had been delivered to the railway company with a similar untrue description; and who is responsible for an error involving so much risk to the public.

*THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR WAR (Mr. WYNDHAM, Dover): I have no information at present in regard to this matter. Reference has been made to the General Officer Commanding the District, and he has been instructed to telegraph the results of his inquiry.

THE ESSEX REGIMENT.

MAJOR RASCH (Essex, S.E.): I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for War whether the Essex Regiment has recently been permitted to wear a badge representing the French eagle captured by them at Salamanca, on their mess dress; whether the regiment has applied for leave to wear the badge on their uniform generally; and for what reason permission has been given in one case and withheld in the other.

*MR. WYNDHAM: It has not been thought desirable, after so long an interval of time, that a badge for Salamanca should be added to the honours of the regiment, but there appeared to be no objection to meeting the wishes of the officers by allowing them to wear it in mess dress, which is not a parade uniform.

MAJOR RASCH: Is the hon. Gentleman aware that the Devonshire Regiment has recently been allowed to wear badges for Blenheim, Oudenarde, and Malplaquet, battles which took place some 200 years ago?

*MR. WYNDHAM: I am not aware of that. The hon. and gallant Member, however, is probably aware that two other regiments bear the eagle, but they alone were concerned, whereas, in the case of the Essex Regiment, a cavalry regiment was also largely instrumental in securing the trophy.

1ST PEMBROKESHIRE VOLUNTEERS.

MR. BROOKFIELD (Sussex, Rye): I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for War whether certain men of the 1st (Pembrokeshire) Volunteer Battalion, the Welsh Regiment, have lately been guilty of insubordination; whether the men in question were under military law at the time of the alleged occurrence; and what action is being taken with regard to the matter.

*MR. WYNDHAM: It is entirely denied by the Officer Commanding at the review that there was any insubordination. The men were not under military law, and no action is called for. The statement in the Press appears to have been greatly exaggerated. A few more men paraded than were expected. Luncheons ran short, and there was a little not unnatural grumbling.

THE ESSEX REGIMENT.

MAJOR RASCH: I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for War why Barking, Stratford, and Walthamstow (parts of Essex) are incorporated with the Woolwich recruiting district, when the Essex Regiment is at present 850 men below its establishment.

*MR. WYNDHAM: It is found more convenient and economical to include these places in the Woolwich recruiting area. The Woolwich recruiting officer, however, enlists for the Essex Regiment, and obtained last year seventy-eight recruits for it. The Line battalions are forty-three short of establishment; the Militia battalions, 682 short.

RECRUITS' AGES.

MR. PIRIE (Aberdeen, N.): I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for War whether, with reference to the recent attempted research into the ages given by recruits, they were given to understand that, failing accurate verification of their ages according to their statement, they would not be accepted for enlistment; and whether, in view of the evils of the existing system, the Government will attempt the experiment of only accepting recruits whose ages can stand verification.

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*MR. WYNDHAM: The answer to both paragraphs of the hon. Member's question is in the negative.

MR. PIRIE: I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for War whether liability to punishment under Sections 33 and 97, Army Act, of youths under seventeen years of age who claim their discharge, or under Section 34 of persons under military law who are concerned in enlisting boys under the regulation age of eighteen, is ever enforced; whether he is aware that boys under seventeen, and therefore entitled to immediate discharge, who have often been persuaded to enlist by undue influence of the recruiter, are deterred from claiming that discharge from having fear of severe punishment held out before them should they confess to having given a wrong age; and if, under such circumstances, liability to punishment as far as this offence is concerned could be withdrawn.

*MR. WYNDHAM: The punishment to which they are liable is not enforced at present, and there is no evidence to show that boys are deterred from claiming discharge owing to fear of this punishment. It is not intended to alter the Act of Parliament as suggested.

MR. PIRIE: I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for War if he is aware of the unreliability of the stated ages of British soldiers, and that in a recent experiment as to verification of their ages accurate information could only be obtained in about 50 per cent. of cases; whether, in view of the increasing prevalence of enteric fever in India, as well as to the prevalence of other terrible diseases among our troops in India, he will take steps, on behalf of the Indian Government, that the regulations as to the age of twenty, under which no British soldier is supposed to be sent to India, shall be strictly observed; and whether he will in future require that every British soldier accepted for service in India by the Indian Government shall produce conclusive proof, by birth certificate or otherwise, that he is of the actual age stated on his attestation papers, and thus diminish the excess of fatality existing at present from the exposure of immature men to the ravages of those diseases.

*MR. WYNDHAM: Every care is taken to observe the rule that no soldier less than twenty years old shall be sent to India. No soldier is allowed to embark unless, after medical examination, he is declared fit to serve in that country.

UNDESIRABLE RECRUITS.

MR. PIRIE: I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for War with reference to the case mentioned in the 1898 Report on Military Prisons of a prisoner, only twenty-two years of age, but who had enlisted nine times and deserted no less than six times, he being first accepted for enlistment when fifteen years of age, whether the dates of his enlistments and desertions could be given; and whether, in view of the fact that the desertions from the Army during 1898 amounted to 4,107, whilst the percentage of sentences by courts martial shows no reduction, and that of minor punishments is the highest recorded since 1888, the Government would be prepared only to accept persons for enlistment who can satisfactorily account for themselves, or to adopt a system of identification as recommended by the Inspector-General of Military Prisons in his Report.

*MR. WYNDHAM: It has not yet been possible to obtain the information sought. The statement referred to was taken from the man's own confession. In regard to the second paragraph, the suggested system was given a trial for three years, and found to cause excessive labour and expense. Every effort is made to exclude men of bad character.

CEYLON—TREATMENT OF MOHAMID DIDI.

MR. DAVITT (Mayo, S.): I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether his attention has been directed to the treatment accorded to Mohamid Didi, Prime Minister of the Sultan of Male, on the occasion of his recent visit to Colombo; will he explain why Didi and his party were treated as prisoners on their return journey to Male on board the "Marathon," and were any charges made against Mohamid Didi or any of his suite; and, if so, will he state what they were; will he also explain why the private secretary to the Sultan, Dadabhoy Nusserwanjee, was ordered to report himself at Colombo, and conveyed there from Male as a prisoner, and on

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reaching Colombo he was allowed to go free, no allegation of any kind being made against him; and whether he will cause an inquiry to be made into the treatment to which Mohamid Didi and Dadabhoy Nusserwanjee have been subjected by the representative of Her Majesty's Government in Ceylon, and will order some reparation to be made to these gentlemen.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES (Mr. J. CHAMBERLAIN, Birmingham, W.): I have received no information on the subject, and have asked for a Report from the Governor of Ceylon.

SIERRA LEONE—TREATMENT OF NATIVE CHIEFS.

MR. DAVITT: I beg to ask the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether he has observed that, in connection with the recent deportation of Bai Bureh and other native chiefs to Accra, Sir David Chalmers, Her Majesty's Special Commissioner to Sierra Leone, has reported that the hut tax, together with the measures used for its enforcement, were the moving causes of the insurrection; and that repugnance to the tax was much aggravated by the methods by which it was endeavoured to be brought into operation, not merely by the acts of the native policemen, but in the whole scheme adopted by the Colonial authorities; and if, in view of this strong expression of opinion by Her Majesty's Commissioner, lenient treatment will be accorded to the deported native chiefs.

MR. J. CHAMBERLAIN: The Report of the Royal Commissioner contains the statements referred to, but it will be seen from my despatch to the Acting-Governor that I am unable to fully endorse all these statements. Independently, however, of this, I am disposed to secure the most lenient treatment to all the chiefs concerned, so far as is consistent with the peace and security of the colony, and I propose to instruct Sir F. Cardew to reconsider their cases on his return, and, if he can possibly do so without danger to the colony, to allow them after a short interval to return to their districts.

MR. DAVITT: I beg to ask the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether the deportation of Bai Bureh from Sierra Leone to Accra is the result of a trial before a jury in Freetown, or the act of the Governor of the colony; does the deportation involve imprisonment in Accra; and if he can say whether Bai Bureh was a peaceable chief, and well-disposed towards the Government of the colony before the imposition of the hut tax.

MR. J. CHAMBERLAIN: Bai Bureh has been deported by the order of the Governor under an Ordinance. He will be detained under surveillance at Accra as a political prisoner. Bai Bureh has always been a turbulent chief—constantly engaged in native wars and slave-raiding expeditions; he has been in collision with the Government of Sierra Leone when it intervened to put a stop to these wars, and again when he took part in raiding French territory. On that occasion an unsuccessful attempt was made to arrest him, and he was eventually compelled to surrender fifty guns. On the other hand, he had previously, in 1892, rendered some assistance to the Government in an expedition undertaken by them. Except on that one occasion, he cannot be said to have been well-disposed to the Government.

RHODESIAN CUSTOMS ORDINANCE.

MR. BRYN ROBERTS: I beg to ask the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether the non-company members of the Rhodesian Parliament strongly opposed the Customs Ordinance, and have resigned in consequence of their protest being overruled by the majority representing the Chartered Company; whether complaints have been made to Sir Alfred Milner in relation to the matter; whether Her Majesty's Government have received information that the Buluwayo Chamber of Commerce has decided to contest the legality of the Ordinance, and that the Salisbury merchants have decided to refuse to sign the declaration forms required by the Ordinance; and whether Her Majesty's Government will redress the grievances of the Rhodesian settlers.

MR. J. CHAMBERLAIN: (1) The elected members of the Legislative Council of Southern Rhodesia voted against the Customs Ordinance. I have no information as to their having resigned. (2) Sir A. Milner reports by telegraph that he has received a number of memorials against the Ordinance, but

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that, after carefully considering them, he came to the conclusion that the Ordinance was in the main fair and reasonable, and that he therefore gave his assent to it, and that it came into operation on 1st August. (3) Sir A. Milner states that a test case will be brought before the High Court by certain traders, but I am not informed whether this is at the instance of the Buluwayo Chamber of Commerce, and I have no information as to the alleged intentions of the Salisbury merchants. (4) I am not aware of any cause for interference at present; the High Commissioner and Her Majesty's Government will take care that no injustice is done.

THE PROPOSED TRANSVAAL COMMISSION.

SIR ELLIS ASHMEAD-BARTLETT (Sheffield, Ecclesall): I beg to ask the Secretary of State for the Colonies what will be the composition of the proposed Commission to settle the differences between Her Majesty's Government and the Transvaal Republic; at what period the Commission is expected to come to a decision; and whether such questions as the independence of the Transvaal High Court of Justice, the equality of languages, and educational rights for the non-Boer inhabitants, will come within its purview.

MR. J. CHAMBERLAIN: Until the proposal for a Joint Commission has been accepted by the Government of the South African Republic I am unable to make a statement as to its composition. Its functions would be to report to the two Governments whether the proposals recently adopted by the Volksraad will secure to the Uitlanders immediate and substantial representation, and if not what Amendments would secure this result. I do not anticipate that this will take many days.

SIR ELLIS ASHMEAD-BARTLETT: May I ask the right hon. Gentleman whether we are to understand that the inquiries by the proposed commission are to be limited to the discussion of the franchise?

MR. J. CHAMBERLAIN: I have stated exactly what the Commission is to consider. I have nothing to add to my answer.

PACIFIC CABLE.

MR. HOGAN: I beg to ask the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether he has received any further information in reference to the settlement of the remaining points at issue in connection with the construction of the Pacific Cable; and whether the negotiations have now sufficiently advanced to enable him to give a general outline of the amended scheme of joint ownership and mutual responsibility, as agreed upon by the representatives of Her Majesty's Government and the Colonial Governments concerned.

MR. J. CHAMBERLAIN: The terms of the arrangement are not yet completely settled, and I am not in a position to make a statement.

CABLE FROM SOUTH AFRICA TO AUSTRALIA.

MR. HOGAN: I beg to ask the Secretary of State for the Colonies what response, if any, has been received from the Colonial Governments concerned to the offer of the Eastern Extension Company to construct a cable from South Africa to Australia.

MR. J. CHAMBERLAIN: The offer in question was not made through this Department, and I have no information as to any replies that may have been given to the company by the Colonial Governments concerned.

THE GRANTS TO THE WEST INDIES.

SIR EDWARD GOURLEY: I beg to ask the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether his attention has been drawn to the unofficial report of the hon. Baronet the Member for the Sudbury Division of Suffolk, written by request, relative to the condition of the West Indies, first, with regard to the establishment of central sugar factories in Barbadoes, Antigua, and St. Kitts; and, secondly, with regard to the creation of a peasant proprietary similar to that recommended by the West India Royal Commission; and, thirdly, with regard to increased coolie immigration; and, fourthly, with regard to better steam communication; if so, will he state whether any of the moneys voted by Parliament under the Colonial Loans Bill will be set aside for the purpose of carrying out any of the recommendations.

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MR. J. CHAMBERLAIN: The hon. Member for the Sudbury Division was good enough to furnish me with a report of his visit to the West Indies, and all the subjects to which it relates are and have long been receiving my careful consideration; but the loans provided for by the Colonial Loans Bill are intended for other purposes.

BRITISH INDIAN TRADERS IN GERMAN AFRICAN POSSESSIONS.

SIR MANCHERJEE BHOWNAGGREE (Bethnal Green, N.E.): I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs if any information has been received with reference to the inquiry which he promised to institute regarding the issue of a stringent edict by the Governor of German South-West Africa, prohibiting the extension of credit to African natives; whether this edict decrees that henceforth the claims of British Indian traders arising out of loans to such natives shall be dismissed by the Colonial Courts; and whether, as the Gewerbsteuer, or tax upon commerce, is directed against those traders, any steps have been taken to represent to the German Government the injustice of imposing upon British subjects trading in German possessions restrictions which are not imposed on German subjects trading in British possessions.

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MR. BRODRICK, Surrey, Guildford): Her Majesty's Government have not yet received the information on the subject which has been asked for.

BANKOK-KHORAT RAILWAY.

SIR CHARLES DILKE (Gloucestershire, Forest of Dean): I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether the Bankok-Khorat railway contract, from which an English firm was ejected by the Siamese Government in August 1896, was subsequently handed over to the German engineers who had formerly been competitors with Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, for the contract, and is now on the point of completion; whether our treaty with Siam was violated by the action in this case of the Siamese Government; and whether Her Majesty's Government intend permanently to withhold the correspondence on the matter from Parliament.

MR. BRODRICK: The Siamese Government have themselves undertaken the construction of the Bankok-Khorat railway, and this is, of course, no violation of the treaty between Great Britain and Siam. Her Majesty's Government see no particular reason for laying Papers on the subject before Parliament.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

SIR ELLIS ASHMEAD-BARTLETT: I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether he can give the House any information as to the reported co-operation of Japan with China in the task of maintaining Chinese independence, and of establishing reforms in China.

MR. BRODRICK: We have no information which would enable us to make any statement on this subject.

THE CYPRUS TRIBUTE LOAN.

SIR ELLIS ASHMEAD-BARTLETT: I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether the Convention for the conversion of the Cyprus Tribute Loan has been completed, and when it will be carried into effect.

MR. BRODRICK: The negotiations on the subject with the Turkish Government are not yet concluded.

THE SUGAR BOUNTIES CONFERENCE.

MR. TOMLINSON (Preston): I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether there are at present any negotiations on the part of Her Majesty's Government or any other Government with a view to reassemble the Brussels Conference with respect to sugar bounties; and whether the French Government are now ready to join the other Governments in agreeing to modify or do away with their bounties on sugar.

MR. BRODRICK: No such negotiations are proceeding on the part of Her Majesty's Government, nor, so far as Her Majesty's Government are aware, on the part of any other Government. So far as I know, the French Government have made no declaration of change in their attitude as regards this question.

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SAMOA.

MR. HOGAN: I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether he can give the latest information in his possession as to the situation in Samoa, and the prospects of a general acceptance of the new form of government suggested by the Joint Commission.

MR. BRODRICK: The latest information from Samoa is that the natives have returned to their homes, and that tranquillity prevails. The Report of the Joint Commission has not yet been received, and no opinion can therefore be expressed concerning it.

FRENCH TRADE IN THE NEW HEBRIDES.

MR. HOGAN: I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether any assurance has yet been received from the French Government that French traders in the New Hebrides will be subjected to the same restrictions as regards the sale of spirits and firearms to the natives that have been imposed for several years past upon British traders.

MR. BRODRICK: No answer has been received from the French Government, but their attention was recently again called to the subject by Her Majesty's Ambassador.

PAYMENT OF WATER DIVINERS.

MR. PICKERSGILL (Bethnal Green, S.W.): I beg to ask the President of the Local Government Board how many appeals have been made to the Local Government Board against disallowances in the accounts of urban district councils of moneys paid from the rates for the employment of water diviners; what were the amounts involved, the dates of the disallowances, and the dates on which the appeals were decided; and whether the Board have allowed the appeals in some cases, and have held that water diviners can be legally employed at the cost of the rates; and, if so, whether the Law Officers of the Crown were consulted.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD (Mr. CHAPLIN, Lincolnshire, Sleaford): Three appeals have been made to the Local Government Board against disallowances of the kind referred to in the question. The sums disallowed were £13 8s. 7d., £7 13s. 6d., and £3 8s. The disallowances were made in May and August, 1897, and in August, 1898. One of the appeals is at present before the Board, but in the other two cases they have allowed the appeals. The decisions were given in October, 1898, and March, 1899. The Board did not deem it necessary to consult the Law Officers of the Crown on the case. They were advised by their own legal adviser that the reasons assigned by the auditor for making the disallowance did not support the action he took in point of law; but at the same time they stated that they could not but consider that the action of the District Council had been unwise in the matter.

SOUTH SHIELDS POOR LAW CHILDREN.

MR. J. G. TALBOT (Oxford University): I beg to ask the President of the Local Government Board whether his attention has been drawn to the action of the Board of Guardians of the South Shields Union in requiring the attendance of children belonging to the Church of England at religious instruction given by Nonconformists, notwithstanding the objection in some cases of the parents, and in others of the clergyman standing for this purpose by law *in loco parentis*: and what steps he proposes to take in the matter.

MR. CHAPLIN: The attention of the Local Government Board was called last year to the attendance of Church of England children in the workhouse of the South Shields Union at a service held in the workhouse weekly by the Sunday School Union. The Board communicated with the guardians, and they were informed that the services in question had been held in the workhouse for a great number of years, that they were conducted by laymen, and that no attempt had ever been made at the service to promulgate any denominational doctrine whatever.

MR. J. G. TALBOT: Was not objection taken by some of the parents as well as by the chaplain?

MR. CHAPLIN: I believe objection was taken, and the reply was that no particular creed was taught.

LORD CRANBORNE (Rochester): Is the right hon. Gentleman aware that the

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teaching complained of is Bible teaching, which involves all kinds of doctrines?

MR. CHAPLIN: I do not know about that.

WOBURN UNION.

MR. ASHTON (Bedfordshire, Luton): I beg to ask the President of the Local Government Board whether it is in contemplation to issue an order for the dissolution of the Woburn Union in Bedfordshire; whether the inspector sent down to inquire into the merits of dissolution is the same official who suggested to the guardians on 5th November, 1897, that dissolution was desirable; and, if so, whether he will consider the desirability of a re-investigation by another inspector; whether he is aware that public meetings have been held in many places in the union against dissolution, that petitions against it have been presented to the Board from fourteen out of the seventeen parishes, and no petitions have been presented in favour of it, that the resolution in favour of dissolution was only carried at the meeting of the Board of Guardians by ten to seven, that the question of dissolution was not before the ratepayers at the last election of guardians; and, whether, under these circumstances, he will withhold his consent to dissolution until after the next election of guardians.

MR. CHAPLIN: The answer to the first paragraph is in the affirmative, and I believe that the facts are generally as stated in the question. The inspector who held the inquiry states that in making his Report he was not guided in any way by his private opinion, but simply and entirely by the evidence given at the inquiry. The decision rested not with him, but with the Local Government Board. I understand that the question of dissolution of the union was before the ratepayers at the last election, and it does not appear to me to be necessary either that a further investigation should be held, or that the dissolution should be postponed until after the next election.

REGISTRATION INEQUALITIES.

MR. ERNEST GRAY (West Ham, N.): I beg to ask the President of the Local Government Board whether his attention has been drawn to the state of the law under which, while the representatives of a private trading company possess the right of voting at municipal elections, yet, on the conversion of such trading concern into a limited liability company, possibly without any actual change of interest or of *personnel*, the directors of such limited company forfeit the privilege of voting at municipal elections; whether he is aware that in the county borough of West Ham private property assessed at £678,000 qualifies no less than 35,000 voters, while £342,000 of company property is unrepresented and voteless; and whether he will consider the desirability of submitting to Parliament such proposals as would confer upon these ratepayers the same privileges and right of voting as are enjoyed by other residents in the same municipal area.

MR. CHAPLIN: I was not aware of the particular case referred to by the hon. Member, but I think that the facts generally are as stated. But I am afraid I cannot give any undertaking to promote legislation on the subject.

POSTMAN MACKAY, OF BRORA.

MR. STEADMAN (Tower Hamlets, Stepney): I beg to ask the Secretary to the Treasury, as representing the Postmaster-General, if he will inquire into the complaint of David Mackay, postman, of Brora, Sutherlandshire, that he was induced by the representations of the quartermaster and a sergeant of the Cameron Highlanders, in March last year, to give up his situation on the railway and to accept an appointment as postman, being informed by the military authorities that his pay would be 16s. rising by 1s. 6d. yearly to 23s. weekly, which statement was endorsed by the chief clerk at the Inverness Post Office; will he explain why, when Mackay had served a year, and applied for the increment, he was for the first time informed that he was appointed on a fixed wage of 16s., and not upon a scale; and whether the Post Office, while admitting the fault was on the side of the military authorities, decline to place this man on a scale wage.

MR. JAMES O'CONNOR (Wicklow, W.): I beg at the same time to ask the Secretary to the Treasury, as representing the Postmaster-General, if he has considered the case of David Mackay, postman, of Brora, who complains that he was induced to enter the postal service by a sergeant of the Cameron High-

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landers, on the understanding that he would receive a commencing wage of 18s. weekly, whereas he has been placed on a fixed wage of 16s., and has been told that the Post Office cannot be held responsible for the mistake made by the sergeant as to the amount of pay.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY TO THE TREASURY (Mr. HANBURY, Preston): The wages authorised for the Brora and Balmacoil walk, on which David Mackay is employed, are 16s. a week (fixed pay); this was stated when application was made to the War Office for a soldier candidate for the vacant walk, and Mackay, on his appointment in May, 1898, signed the usual form in which the wages were correctly given; the quartermaster and the clerk at Inverness Post Office, to whom reference is made, deny that they informed Mackay that he would receive more than 16s. a week, and until the receipt of his application in May, 1899, for an increase in wages, it was not known to the Department that he was under any misapprehension in the matter. The Post Office do not admit any mistake, either of their own or of the War Office.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SAVINGS BANKS.

MR. CHANNING (Northamptonshire, E.): I beg to ask Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer whether, in view of the appointment of a Select Committee next year to consider and report on the question of savings banks, he will obtain through the Foreign Office, and issue before next session, a summary of the legislative and administrative arrangements as to savings banks in foreign countries, with the latest statistics and information as to the relative success of various methods of encouraging thrift, and of carrying out the investment of savings; as regards the results to the depositors, to the economical working of the institutions, and to the State finances of each country.

MR. HANBURY: My right hon. friend's undertaking to the House was to make proposals to Parliament next session on the subject of the savings banks, which might, if it should seem necessary, be examined by a Select Committee—not to appoint such a Committee to consider and report on the question. It is proposed to obtain information from foreign countries on the matter, which I hope may be laid before the House before the proposals are made.

NEWBLISS POSTMAN.

MR. MACALEESE (Monaghan, N.): I beg to ask the Secretary to the Treasury, as representing the Postmaster-General, whether Postman Livingstone, of the Newbliss district, resigned his position on the 11th July ult.; whether the Clones Postmaster, with the sanction of the Dublin postal authorities, appointed an under age person to the vacancy, although a suitable candidate named McGough had made application for the place; did Livingstone ask to be reinstated, and with what result; did the Secretary of the Dublin Post Office receive a communication about the 10th of July ult., in reference to the pending resignation of Livingstone, to which no reply was vouchsafed; and can he ascertain why the Dublin secretary treated this communication with silence.

MR. HANBURY: Livingstone resigned on the 5th ultimo. A lad under sixteen years of age was employed by the sub-postmistress of Newbliss to provide temporarily for the work. This lad, she reports, was the only candidate in Newbliss. McGough, to whom the hon. Member refers, made no application for the post, and he lives two miles from Newbliss. He applied some time ago for employment as a postman, and was told that if a vacancy occurred where he lived his application would be considered. Livingstone made three applications, viz., on the 18th, 22nd, and 26th ultimo for re-employment. These applications, together with a further one since received, are in the hands of the local surveyor for consideration. A communication was received on the 11th of July which related to Livingstone's retirement amongst other matters, and an answer will be returned to it in due course.

METEOROLOGICAL COUNCIL'S ACCOUNTS.

MR. PIRIE: I beg to ask the Secretary to the Treasury whether the accounts of the Meteorological Council show a sum as being set aside to provide for a superannuation fund from the Annual Grant, and what is its amount; if so, whether, seeing that it is a condition that the Grant should be applied exclu-

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sively to the scientific work of meteorology, attention has been called to such a misappropriation of public money by the Controller and Auditor-General.

MR. HANBURY: If the hon. Member will refer to the Appropriation Account of Vote 6, Class IV., he will see that in the year ended 31st March, 1898, a sum of £144 was expended on pensions, but there was no provision for a general superannuation fund. The Controller and Auditor-General has not thought fit to comment on the expenditure in question.

OVERTIME IN THE CIVIL SERVICE.

MR. ERNEST GRAY: I beg to ask the Secretary to the Treasury, whether the regulations which were issued in 1892 respecting the payment of an uniform rate of 1s. 2d. per hour for overtime performed by assistant clerks were intended to apply generally throughout the public service; and, if so, whether steps will be taken to pay the amount withheld from those assistant clerks who performed extra duty in those departments in which, through a misapprehension of the said regulations, a lower rate than the authorised one was paid for extra duty subsequent to 1892.

MR. HANBURY: No general regulations were issued in 1892. In 1891 the Commissioners of Customs were informed that in that department a rate of 1s. 2d. should be paid for overtime. General regulations prescribing the rate of overtime to be paid to abstractors of the new class were issued by the Treasury in November, 1896; and I understand that the practice of all departments with regard to abstractors of the old class was then rendered uniform.

POSTMAN SHRIMPTON, OF RICHMOND.

MR. STEADMAN: I beg to ask the Secretary to the Treasury, as representing the Postmaster-General, if any decision has been come to regarding the case of Thomas Shrimpton, auxiliary postman, of Richmond, Surrey, who, although he has been in the service nearly thirteen years, is compelled to rank at the bottom of the whole outdoor staff of sixty-three men, although in an Order (118,396, 1896) it was directed that men in his position should be allowed to rank as regards choice of duties and annual leave after the men already appointed, but before new entrants in the classes to which they are attached; and will he explain why this man is compelled to do duty on alternate Sundays as one of the eighteen junior men, although it was provided in a departmental order that auxiliaries are not to be compelled to do extra work, as they are expected to earn their living outside the service, and Sunday duty is always paid for as extra work.

MR. HANBURY: Shrimpton is an auxiliary postman, and, as such, is not entitled to leave or choice of duties. He is allowed to fill the place of an assistant postman, but he cannot be actually appointed an assistant postman, because he cannot obtain a Civil Service certificate. He is, nevertheless, allowed all the privileges of an assistant postman, and takes his choice of leave at the head of that class. Assistant postmen are required to do duty on alternate Sundays, and receive extra pay. If Shrimpton finds a substitute he will be exempted in accordance with the usual rule.

GLENARM PIER.

MR. T. M. HEALY (Louth, N.): I beg to ask the Secretary to the Treasury whether he has sanctioned the action of the Department of Woods and Forests in compelling the owner of the pier of Glenarm, County Antrim, to pay the Crown £1,200 (under threat of legal proceedings) in order to quiet his title, which had for many years remained unchallenged; and whether he is aware that if the Department pressed their claim the result would be to throw hundreds of workmen out of employment.

MR. HANBURY: The owner of this pier, etc., was the Crown. It was built under a Crown lease of the foreshore, etc., granted in 1864, which expired in November, 1898, at the same time as the lease of the neighbouring quarries. The Commissioners of Woods recently sold the pier to Lord Antrim, the owner of the adjoining quarries. There is no question of workmen being thrown out of employment by the action of the Crown. Indeed, the continued employment of the quarrymen chiefly depended upon the quarries and the pier being worked together.

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SALARIES OF THE COUNTY COURT JUDGES.

MR. BRYN ROBERTS: I beg to ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether, in view of the large increase in the jurisdiction of the county courts since the salaries of the judges were fixed, Her Majesty's Government have considered the reasonableness of introducing legislation which will enable their salaries to be adequately increased; and whether Her Majesty's Government will introduce legislation to extend without limit, or at any rate very largely, the jurisdiction of the county courts, but so that such extension should be exercised only by specially selected judges sitting at special courts.

*THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE HOME DEPARTMENT (Sir M. WHITE RIDLEY, Lancashire, Blackpool): I have consulted the Lord Chancellor, and can hold out no hope of legislation of the nature suggested.

EDWARD DUFFY, OF LEIGH.

MR. DAVITT: I beg to ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department if his attention has been called to a murderous attack made upon an Irish labourer named Edward Duffy, at Leigh, on Monday last, when he was felled by a blow from behind, and had his hands tied to his back while being kicked by his assailants; is he aware that the injuries are deemed to be of a fatal nature; and if any of Duffy's assailants have been arrested.

*SIR M. WHITE RIDLEY: I am glad to be able to say that Duffy is reported to be making favourable progress, and to be likely to recover, in spite of the serious nature of his injuries. A man has been arrested and charged with the assault, and is now under remand.

REDUCTION OF SENTENCE.

MR. DRUCKER (Northampton): I I beg to ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether he has received a petition, signed by over eleven thousand of the inhabitants of Northampton, including many public officials of the borough, praying for a remission of the sentence of ten years' penal servitude, passed upon a man named Golding, who was convicted of pointing a pistol, which it was proved in evidence could not be fired, at one Emily Roberts; whether he has considered such petition; and whether he is prepared to advise the Crown to remit the remainder of the sentence?

*SIR M. WHITE RIDLEY: A petition on behalf of Golding was received in 1898, and was carefully considered by me, together with all the facts of the case. I am not prepared to advise an absolute remission of the sentence, but I have directed that the case shall be treated as one of seven years' penal servitude.

ORTON RAILWAY COLLISION.

MR. CALDWELL (Lanarkshire, Mid): I beg to ask the President of the Board of Trade whether he is aware that on November 22nd last a serious collision occurred at Orton station, on the Highland Railway, between a cattle train from Forres to Keith and a passenger train from Keith to Forres; and will he state whether any official inquiry has been held by the Board of Trade in regard to the accident; and, if not, will he explain on what grounds.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF TRADE (Mr. RITCHIE, Croydon): No person was returned as injured, and as the cause of the accident was clearly explained, a formal investigation was not made. The case was considered, however, by Sir Francis Marindin, and his views were communicated to the company by the Department in correspondence.

LASCAR ACCOMMODATION ON P. & O. VESSELS.

MR. HAVELOCK WILSON (Middlesbrough): I beg to ask the President of the Board of Trade whether he can state the names of the vessels, if any, owned by the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Shipping Company on which the Board of Trade have declined to allow deductions from tonnage in consequence of that company not complying with the 210th section of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894.

MR. RITCHIE: I wish the hon. Gentleman could have seen his way to giving longer notice of this question and the questions next on the Paper. They only appeared on the Paper on Saturday morning; they necessitated a considerable amount of search, and as a conse-

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quence several members of my staff have been deprived of their holiday. The names of the vessels owned by the Peninsular and Oriental Company in which deductions from tonnage have been disallowed, because the space required by Section 210 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, was not provided, are as follows :— "Arcadia," "Bengal," "Ballarat," "Coromandel," "Carthage," "Chusan," "Canton," "Manila," "Massilia," "Nubia," "Oriental," "Oceana," "Paramatta," "Peninsula," "Pekin," "Peshawur," "Shanghai," "Shannon," "Thames," "Valetta," and "Simla."

MR. HAVELOCK WILSON : I beg to ask the President of the Board of Trade whether he has been advised by the Law Officers of the Crown that Section 210 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, bearing upon the accommodation for seamen, applies to Lascars and other Native seamen in the same manner as it applies to other seamen serving on board British vessels registered in the United Kingdom.

MR. RITCHIE : I can only refer the hon. Member to the terms of the answer given to a similar question put by him on the 3rd instant, which obviously showed that in the opinion of the Law Officers of the Crown the provisions of Section 210 of the Merchant Shipping Act are infringed when the space required by that section is not provided for Lascars or other Native seamen.

MR. HAVELOCK WILSON : Seeing the right hon. Gentleman admits there has been an infringement of the Act, may I ask him whether, and when, the Board of Trade intend to enforce the law by summoning the owners under the section which provides for a penalty of £25 for each offence ?

MR. RITCHIE : The hon. Gentleman had better give notice of that question.

LOSS OF VESSELS AT SEA.

MR. HAVELOCK WILSON : I beg to ask the President of the Board of Trade whether he is aware that the following British registered steamships have foundered or are missing since June, 1898 : s.s. "Eira," s.s. "Tina," s.s. "Harbinger," s.s. "Arno," s.s. "Earnock," s.s. "Almida," s.s. "Recepta," s.s. "Dora Foster," s.s. "Caradoc," s.s. "Arona," s.s. "Laughton," s.s. "Wooler,' s.s. "Boadicea," s.s. "Picton," s.s. "Oberon," s.s. "City of Wakefield," s.s. "Croft," s.s. "Port Melbourne"; also that the following British registered sailing vessels foundered or are missing since June, 1898 : "Celtic Bard," "Rose," "Montague," "Marlborough," "Village Belle," "Iddesleigh," "Aldboro," "Sunbeam," "Dora," "Andelina," "Sefton," "Hawkesdale," "Dechmont," "Laurel Bank," "David Morgan," "Atlanta"; whether he can state the number of persons carried on these vessels as crew or passengers, and the number who lost their lives on such vessels; and whether any inquiries have been held to ascertain the cause of the loss of these vessels, and in how many of these cases have no inquiries been held.

MR. RITCHIE : The list of steamships foundered or missing, as given in the question, is correct, except with regard to the "Harbinger," which is reported to have arrived on the 3rd instant, the "Arno," which was lost by stranding, and the "Caradoc" and "Boadicea," which were sailing vessels—not steamers. The list of sailing ships foundered or missing is correct, except with regard to the "Dechmont," which is reported to be now on her voyage from Caleta Buena to London, the "Sefton" and the "Hawkesdale," which were lost by stranding, and the "Marlborough," which was lost in April, 1898 (not since June, 1898). The number of persons carried on the vessels which were lost was 605 (including one passenger, the wife of a master), and the number of persons lost was 545, including the passenger. In six cases ("Arno," "Earnock," "Wooler," "Montagu," "Hawkesdale," and "Atalanta") formal inquiries have been held. In one case ("Recepta") inquiry was ordered, but had to be abandoned for want of evidence. In three cases ("Caradoc," "Celtic Bard," and "Laurelbank") inquiries have been ordered, and are pending. In the remaining cases mentioned in the question all available information was obtained by the Board of Trade; but the Department were of opinion, after consideration of such information, that formal inquiries would be without useful result.

MR. HAVELOCK WILSON : May I ask the right hon. Gentleman why no inquiry was held with regard to the loss of the eight steamers which foundered in

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January and February last in the Atlantic Ocean?

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, order! That is not the question on the Paper. The hon. Member must give notice.

Mr. HAVELOCK WILSON: The names of the vessels are in the question; but it is quite true I have not asked why the inquiry was not held.

COCKETT TUNNEL.

Mr. RANDELL (Glamorganshire, Gower): I beg to ask the President of the Board of Trade whether the inspecting officer appointed to inquire into the causes of the accident whereby a portion of the Cockett Tunnel, on the Great Western Railway main line, fell through, has made his Report to the Board of Trade; and, if so, what is the result of such inquiry; and what steps are being taken for securing the safety of the travelling public and the railway servants before the tunnel will again be used for traffic.

Mr. RITCHIE: I have not yet received the inspecting officer's report. The Board of Trade understand that the company are engaged on necessary works to secure the safety of the public, and that no passenger traffic is at present admitted through the tunnel.

EDUCATIONAL AID GRANTS.

Sir CHARLES DILKE: I beg to ask the Vice-President of the Committee of Council on Education whether the Returns published by the Education Department during the current year show that the amount of annual grant paid on behalf of scholars in attendance in Voluntary schools is about 4½d. per scholar in excess of that paid last year, and that during the same period the amount of Aid Grant brought to account was equal to about 3s. 1d. per scholar, the two together making an increase of 3s. 5½d. per scholar in average attendance; and that during the same period the cost of maintenance has increased 1s. 10¾d. per unit of average attendance in Voluntary schools; whether of the difference of 1s. 6½d. per head the fall in voluntary subscriptions accounts for 7½d.; and, if so, can he state what has become of the other 11d. per scholar, equal in the aggregate to about £113,800. Can he state how much of this sum has been used in increasing the rents paid by school managers, either to private persons or religious bodies, and how much of it has been used in the liquidation of debt contracted before the passing of the Act, or used as current income in order that other moneys may be set free for the liquidation of such debt; and can he state whether the Department contemplate any steps for restricting the use of the Aid Grant to the purposes for which it was allotted by Parliament.

Mr. HANBURY (for Sir J. Gorst): The Aid Grant brought to account, as shown in the Returns referred to, was at the rate of about 3s. per scholar in average attendance. On the other hand, a combination of all other Government Grants brought to account, shows precisely the same rate as in the preceding year, and the rate of income from voluntary contributions and other local sources fell by about 9d. The net gain in income was thus about 2s. 3d., while the expenditure on maintenance increased by 1s. 10d. The latest returns show no increase in the rate of rent per scholar in average attendance. A considerable part of the Aid Grant necessarily remained as unexpended balance in the hands of the managers; but such balances continue to be applicable exclusively to the purposes for which the grants were given, and care is taken in the Department to see that they are properly spent. No part has, so far as the Department are aware, been used for the liquidation of debt contracted before the passing of the Act.

Rev. JAMES MACKAY.

Mr. J. W. SIDEBOTHAM (Cheshire, Hyde): I beg to ask the Lord Advocate whether an infraction of the law has been committed by officers of the Scottish National Church in debarring the Rev. James Mackay, a lawfully appointed and ordained minister under the Presbytery of Edinburgh, from his sphere of duty and his income as minister of the Scottish National Church at Manchester.

The LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. A. Graham Murray, Buteshire): I am given to understand that the Rev. James Mackay alluded to in the question complains of the action of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. In matters spiritual the General Assembly is the supreme tribunal of the Church, and

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not subject to review. If Mr. Mackay has any claims of civil right, he can prosecute them in the civil court.

MR. ANDREW CARNEGIE.

MR. T. B. CURRAN (Donegal, N.): I beg to ask the Lord Advocate whether Mr. Andrew Carnegie has been appointed a justice of the peace for Sutherlandshire, and whether he is a naturalised British subject.

MR. A. GRAHAM MURRAY: I have no knowledge of the fact except that I saw in the newspapers that Mr. Andrew Carnegie has been appointed a deputy-lieutenant. I am not aware whether he has received letters of administration; but if he has not, it is quite clear that as an alien he is unable to serve as a justice of the peace, and it must have been unknown, both to the Lord Lieutenant and the Lord Chancellor, when the appointment was made.

MR. T. B. CURRAN: I understand he is not naturalised.

ROXBORO' ROAD (LIMERICK) SCHOOLS.

Mr. ARTHUR MOORE (Londonderry): I beg to ask Mr. Attorney-General for Ireland if anything has arisen between March 28th, 1897, and July 25th, 1898, to alter the legal position of the Commissioners of Education, or that of their tenant, Canon Gregg, in reference to the Roxboro' Road Schools; or have the Commissioners received different advice since it was declared that the land on which the schools are built was inalienable; whether he is aware that the total cost of this school was £1,672, of which £1,640 were presented by the Grand Juries of the County of Limerick, and the County of the city of Limerick; and that the Mayor and Town Council of Limerick protested by formal resolution against the present use of this school as a sectarian institution; is he aware that in the schemes which were drawn up by the Educational Endowments Commissioners for dealing with these premises it was provided that their value should go to promote intermediate education in the City of Limerick, amongst the citizens of all creeds; under what law do the Commissioners of Education grant them at £20 a year to Canon Gregg; in what state of repair are the buildings at present; could he state when they were inspected by an architect on behalf of the Commissioners of Education, and what report did he make; what steps have the Commissioners taken within the last ten years to enforce the covenant to repair, and not to allow the premises to be rendered worthless by its use as a poor school; is it a fact that from the year 1880 to the year 1890 the Commissioners of Education gave the rent of the premises to the tenant for repairs, notwithstanding his agreement to keep them in repair; and how is the money to be made good.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. ATKINSON, Londonderry, N.): Nothing has occurred between the dates mentioned in the first paragraph to alter the legal position of the Commissioners of Education, who in the reasonable management of this property had let it to Canon Gregg as tenant from year to year. They have not alienated it, as assumed in the question. The Commissioners have not received any advice which was different from that on which they acted in March, 1897. The facts appear to be correctly stated in the second paragraph, except that the resolution of the Limerick Town Council contains no reference to or suggestion of the fact, as alleged, that the premises are used for sectarian purposes. The schemes in question contained provisions for the application of the income from the school premises and from the moneys to be realised by the sale thereof in the promotion of Intermediate Education in the dioceses of Limerick, Killaloe, and Kilfenora. The circumstances under which the school premises were let to Canon Gregg are fully set out in the recitals of the schemes referred to, copies of which were sent from time to time to all persons interested. The Commissioners have acted under the law as administered by the Court of Chancery in reference to the management of trust property by trustees. The buildings were not inspected by an architect on behalf of the Commissioners since Mr. Mitchell made his report in 1892. From the year 1880 to 1890 the Commissioners expended a sum of £188 17s. 6d. on the premises. During the same period Canon Gregg appears to have expended on the premises out of his own money a sum of £160.

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BANTRY DISTRICT NATIONAL SCHOOL INSPECTOR.

MR. JAMES O'CONNOR: I beg to ask the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland whether he is aware that Mr. M'Millan, Inspector of National Schools, recently appointed to the Bantry district, has largely reduced the result fees hitherto earned by the teachers of the district, the reduction in some cases amounting to nearly one-half of what they had previously been earning; and will he explain upon what grounds have the reductions been made.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY FOR IRELAND (Mr. G. W. BALFOUR, Leeds, Central): I am informed by the Commissioners of National Education that the amount of results fees earned by teachers in this district has suffered a reduction in most, though not in all cases, on the examination of the new Inspector, Mr. McMillan, held up to the present this year, as compared with what was received last year by the same teachers, on the examinations of his predecessor. Only in a very few cases, however, has the difference been as large as stated in the question. As many circumstances, such as the number of pupils presented for examination, the classification of the pupils, the prevalence of sickness, or other local cases, are liable to affect the results from year to year, it would not be safe to draw any general conclusion as to the change being attributable solely to over-severity on the part of the inspector. The matter will, however, be inquired into.

COUNTY ANTRIM SUB-COMMISSION.

MR. KILBRIDE (Galway, N.): I beg to ask the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, with reference to the recent appointment of Mr. Wilson as a member of the County Antrim Sub-Commission, whether he is aware of the general dissatisfaction of the farmers of North Antrim with this appointment, on the grounds that he formerly acted as land agent within this district, and has also been an assistant road surveyor under the County Antrim Grand Jury; whether he had any practical or other qualifications for testing the profit-producing qualities of lands; and what were the experience and qualifications which commended his appointment.

MR. G. W. BALFOUR: The Land Commissioners will refer the first part of this question to Mr. Wilson for his observations. I am not, however, aware that his employment on the Sub-Commission which has recently been sitting in the County Antrim has caused any dissatisfaction in that district. Mr. Wilson was first appointed as assistant commissioner in June, 1890, and he continued in office until August, 1891. He was reappointed in September, 1896, since which date he has been continuously employed in the County Antrim; and the commissioners are not aware that any objection has previously been raised to his employment in that county. In reply to the second and third paragraphs, the experience of Mr. Wilson prior to his appointment as assistant commissioner was as a land valuer, surveyor and civil engineer.

BUNCRANA POLICE.

MR. T. B. CURRAN: I beg to ask the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland if he could state how many members of the Royal Irish Constabulary are at present stationed at Buncrana, and how many of these are Roman Catholics; whether it is a fact that the district inspector, head constable, and sergeant are Protestants; and whether the regulations of the force necessitate the presence of so many Protestants in Catholic districts.

MR. G. W. BALFOUR: There are twelve members of the constabulary stationed at Buncrana, of whom six are Roman Catholics. The district inspector and head constable are Protestants; one sergeant is a Roman Catholic and another a Protestant. I do not think there is anything in this distribution calling for special remark.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT.

MR. CHANNING: I beg to ask the First Lord of the Treasury whether Her Majesty's Government have considered the great variety of points as to which litigation appears to have become necessary owing to the indefiniteness of the terms of the Workmen's Compensation Act; and whether legislation will be proposed next session to remove ambiguities shown to exist in the provisions of the said Act.

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THE FIRST LORD OF THE TREASURY (Mr. A. J. BALFOUR, Manchester, E.): I believe the hon. Gentleman is right in saying that there has been a great deal of litigation in connection with this matter, but I am not aware that any facts have come to light to indicate the necessity of bringing in an amending measure.

THE DISCUSSION OF THE ESTIMATES.

MR. HAZELL (Leicester): I beg to ask the First Lord of the Treasury if he will consider the possibility, in arranging the future business of the House, of bringing on the Estimates in such order that, excluding those for the Army and Navy, all the Votes that have been passed without discussion under the Standing Orders of the House in one session shall be put first on the Order Paper for the succeeding session; so giving the House an opportunity of criticising, at any rate in the course of a few years, the whole of the items constituting the Civil Service Estimates.

MR. A. J. BALFOUR: The hon. Gentleman is aware that we do give preference, as far as we can, to Votes which have not been discussed in the preceding year and the discussion of which seems desirable. I can hardly lay down in all its force the principle which the hon. Gentleman advocates in his question. It would certainly greatly hamper the House in dealing with the Estimates it especially desires to bring under review.

MR. LEWIS (Flint Boroughs): May I ask the right hon. Gentleman whether it would not be possible to appoint a Committee for the purpose of considering the Estimates, in order that they may be thoroughly discussed.

MR. A. J. BALFOUR: I presume the hon. Gentleman does not mean a Committee of the whole House, but some special Committee.

MR. LEWIS: Yes.

MR. A. J. BALFOUR: That would be a very violent change in our procedure, and I do not think I can give an answer offhand to such a question of policy.

AGRICULTURE AND TECHNICAL INSTRUCTION (IRELAND) BILL.

Lords Amendments considered.

Lords Amendment, in page 5, line 11, "Leave out sub-heads (*d*) and (*e*)," the first Amendment, read a second time.

Motion made, and Question proposed—

"That this House doth agree with the Lords in the said Amendment."—(*Mr. Attorney-General for Ireland.*)

MR. MICHAEL AUSTIN (Limerick, W.): I move that the House do disagree.

MR. SPEAKER: That is not necessary. The hon. Member can vote against the motion to agree.

MR. MICHAEL AUSTIN: The two sub-heads which have been eliminated by the Upper Chamber relate to the representation on the Board of the chambers of commerce of the three principal cities of Ireland, as well as the trades councils of the same places—Belfast, Dublin, and Cork. Why, in the formation of this Board, is the commercial and industrial life of these communities to have no representation whatever? The grievance is felt very acutely in Belfast, the chamber of commerce there having passed a resolution protesting most strongly against the action of the Upper House. I see that the provincial committees are to consist mainly of agricultural representatives, and why should they have such a preponderating influence on a board which is to be devoted to the advancement of technical instruction? I am afraid that in this matter the Peers are following their old policy of denying the right of popular representation, and I shall accordingly press my opposition to this to a Division.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR (Liverpool, Scotland): I have been asked by hon. Members who are unavoidably absent to join with the hon. Member in his protest against the action of the House of Lords. I feel we have some right to complain in this case, because when the Bill was first introduced it provided for the representation of chambers of commerce, and the Grand Committee, after very full consideration, decided that the trades councils should also be represented. These

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bodies deserve encouragement. They play a very important part in public life, and the new Board is exactly the body which would get considerable assistance from these representatives. These trades councils represent the education which will be useful to the artisan classes, and to exclude from this Board representatives of the working-classes in Ireland, who are primarily interested, seems to me to be depriving the Board of the representative character which it is desirable that it should have. As to the chambers of commerce, I need not argue the question, because, fortunately, I find myself in agreement with the right hon. Gentleman who was responsible for the Bill as it was introduced in its original shape. These chambers of commerce represent another factor of Irish life, which it is most desirable also should be represented on these Boards—viz., the commercial life of Ireland. I understand from my hon. friend, the Member for West Limerick, that Belfast, which is a very important industrial city, has already protested strongly against the action of the House of Lords, and I must express my disappointment that the right hon. Gentleman has not seen his way to move his disagreement to the Amendment of the Lords, and to restore these two most necessary and desirable additions.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY FOR IRELAND (Mr. G. W. BALFOUR, Leeds Central): As the hon. Member who has just spoken has referred to what passed in Grand Committee, I propose briefly to refer to the circumstances. Originally the Bill contained a provision giving representation on the Board of Technical Instruction to the representatives of the Chambers of Commerce of Dublin, Belfast, and Cork, and when the Bill was before the Grand Committee, the hon. Member for South Mayo moved to add to the Board of Technical Instruction six more members of the trades councils of the six large boroughs of Ireland. That Amendment was so far modified as to be confined to the three large boroughs of Dublin, Cork, and Belfast. In that form the Amendment was carried by a majority of one vote against the strong opposition of the Government. When the Report stage was reached in the House I did not move that what had been done by the Grand Committee should be disturbed by the House; I abstained from doing so, because the question of whether the Bill was to pass or not was very largely one of time, and I was therefore unwilling to initiate a Debate which might have lasted a considerable period. The hon. Member who has just spoken, and the hon. Member who preceded him, have not mentioned one very great objection which I feel to the alteration made by the Committee. The total number of the Board of Technical Instruction in the Bill as drafted by myself was twenty-four. I felt that twenty-four was a much larger number than I should like the Board to consist of. The Board of Agriculture I made to consist of twelve members. I think twelve is much better than twenty-four. But I found the difficulty in regard to the Board of Technical Instruction was to secure that all the interests should be adequately represented with a less number of members than twenty-four. It was on that ground, and on that ground alone, that I was reluctantly compelled to make the Board as large as I did. But I have the strongest possible objection to making the Board larger by three members. I do not think that twenty-seven would be a convenient number, nor do I think it would tend to the prompt and satisfactory despatch of business. But I have a further objection to the proposal that the trades councils should send direct representatives to the Board—not that I object to the presence of the representatives of the working-classes, but, without increasing the number of the Board, we might reasonably expect, as the county councils in the county boroughs are to elect eleven representatives out of the twenty-four, and as those bodies are elected by the people, that some would be representatives of the artisan class. It is to the county council that we should look to put them there. It does not appear to me reasonable that we should give artisans, as such, direct representation on this Board. I must say that, even if I did not think thus, I am not satisfied that I should be able to regard the trades councils as perfectly satisfactory bodies. The trades councils, in the first place, have no legal status, and have never received, as far as I am aware, any legal recognition. They have their business, which is the protection of the workers. They represent the workers in contra-

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distinction to the employers, and that was so strongly felt in the Grand Committee that one of the arguments which seemed to have most weight with the Committee was that the Government were giving representation to the employers by allowing chambers of commerce to send representatives to the Board. If that were the case it was fairly argued that the workers should have representatives also. I am not prepared to admit that that argument was perfectly sound. I do not think that the chambers of commerce should be taken to be representative of the employers as opposed to the workers. I think the House will readily see that if federation is to be represented on the Board it would be absurd. The chambers of commerce themselves have now been cut out, and whatever argument there was on the side of the trades councils now disappears. I do not deny that I witnessed the disappearance of the chambers of commerce from the Bill with a certain amount of regret. The trades councils have never taken any keen interest in the Bill; but the chambers of commerce had taken a deep interest in it from the beginning.

MR. MICHAEL AUSTIN: I beg the right hon. Gentleman's pardon. Several resolutions were passed by the trades councils.

MR. G. W. BALFOUR: I am bound to admit that the chambers of commerce have given the greatest possible assistance throughout in the preparation of the measure, and I cannot help feeling regret that they have disappeared; but at the same time, having regard to the fact that the right of the chambers of commerce to send representatives to this Board has given rise to a feeling that the workers are not to be represented as compared with the employers, and, further, that it would in a manner diminish the total number of the Board, I cannot at the present stage of affairs recommend the House to do other than agree with the House of Lords.

*MR. BROADHURST (Leicester): I know the Trades Council of Belfast very well, and I know that the councils of both Belfast and Dublin consist of the best artisans. Furthermore, from the correspondence I have received I have no doubt whatever that the Council of Cork consists of similarly good artisans. I regret the decision arrived at by the Chief Secretary, and I also regret that he agreed with the House of Lords in striking out of the Bill the chambers of commerce. The right hon. Gentleman exhibited generally a desire to make the Bill effective, and to embrace all interests in Ireland for the benefit of Irish trade and Irish agriculture. Therefore I think his decision will cause widespread disappointment in Ireland. He seems to have been unaware of the trades councils having taken any great interest in the Bill. I would remind the House that all trades councils take an interest generally in all subjects that have for their object the uplifting of the workers, and in all parts of the country they take a keen interest in all matters of technical instruction and all other interests of an educational kind. The right hon. Gentleman seemed to complain that he did not receive deputations from the Irish trades councils, and that he did receive some from the chambers of commerce. I can explain that very well. If the Chief Secretary had received all his deputations in Dublin, some of the trades councils might have approached him. But trades councils are bodies consisting entirely of working men. In that case, could he expect them, all working men, to travel all the way from Ireland? If the Chief Secretary had stood by his Amendments it would have been a great compliment to the skilled workmen of Ireland, and a compliment which they would have highly appreciated, and it would have done much to enlist the sympathy of Irish workmen in the government of Ireland and in a scheme having for its object the welfare of the Irish people. In this country trades councils are recognised by local authorities, municipalities, institutions of all kinds, hospitals, commercial schools; and the Imperial Institute have attached men from the trades union movement as life governors of that body; and a great many public institutions in this country go direct to the trades councils for advice as to whom they shall select as representatives for various positions. I was delighted that the same theory was to be adopted with regard to Ireland. If the Chief Secretary had held to his opinions after his own arguments had been crushed by arguments against

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him, it would have been more satisfactory had he moved to omit the Amendment on the Report stage in this House, when we could have dealt with it at greater length. I do not suppose my hon. friend wishes to wreck this Bill, but it is a natural complaint that he is entitled to make on behalf of the organised trades of the whole of Ireland, and had he failed to make this protest he would not have been, in my humble judgment, discharging the duty which Irish working men expect him to perform on occasions of this kind.

*MR. WILLIAM JOHNSTON (Belfast, S.): A unanimous resolution was passed the other day by the Belfast Corporation, in favour of retaining for the chambers of commerce the position which the Government decided to give them when the Bill was before this House. I regret very much that the Chief Secretary, whose indefatigable energy and extreme fairness have been recognised on all sides, should not have stuck to the Bill, at least, so far as the representation of the chambers of commerce was concerned. Even at this eleventh hour, or a quarter to the twelfth hour, I hope the Chief Secretary will consider if it is not possible to return the Bill to the House of Lords as originally adopted by the Government, to include the representation of the chambers of commerce. For my own part, I had great pleasure in receiving a communication from the secretary to the trades council in Belfast; and a more intelligent and influential body in the matter of technical education it is impossible to find anywhere. I am sure if they had representation under this Bill they would do ample justice to the position they would occupy as distinguished representatives of trade in Belfast. I hope I am not too late in making this appeal to the Chief Secretary, especially with regard to the chambers of commerce, but if the matter is not conceded, I shall be compelled to vote to disagree with the Lords Amendments.

*MR. CHANNING (Northamptonshire, E.): As the only hon. Member on this side of the House who was present during the whole, or nearly the whole, of the Debate in the Standing Committee on this question, I wish to associate myself with the appeal which has been made to the Chief Secretary to reconsider his position. In that Debate it seemed to me that the only strong and decided objections to this proposal, at any rate in its final form, were the objections which came from the Chief Secretary himself. The right hon. Gentleman has restated, with his usual precision, those objections; but all who are acquainted with the conditions under which this scheme of education can successfully be carried out are compelled reluctantly to say that those objections are essentially academic and theoretical, and not practical. It is of vital importance to enlist the active and practical sympathy of the working classes, especially of their organisations, in the development of this class of education. It is just the type of education in regard to which their help is most needed. To have the Government acquiescing in the extremely unwise Amendment which has been adopted in another place is somewhat disheartening to friends of education on its popular and democratic side, and will have the effect of alienating the sympathies of organised labour in Ireland. The hon. Member for South Belfast is well advised in making an appeal with regard to the chambers of commerce also in this matter. The type of education contemplated in this Bill is one with regard to which both these classes may reasonably claim representation. But I rose chiefly to insist upon this fact —that, having listened very carefully to the discussion in the Grand Committee, I am bound to say the arguments were all on one side, and that after the original Amendment had been knocked into the form in which it was finally carried, there was very little to be said against it. I have also to state that I was compelled by an urgent engagement to withdraw from the Committee before the Division was taken, and it is within my knowledge that several other Members were also absent.

MR. G. W. BALFOUR: On both sides.

*MR. CHANNING: It may be there were Members on both sides, but I think the Chief Secretary would be ill-advised in insisting that all the Members who belong to his own political party would naturally have voted against the claim of

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labour to be represented in such a matter as this.

MR. TOMLINSON (Preston) was understood to say that he also claimed to have listened to the discussion in the Grand Committee, and the conclusion he came to was that the proposed Board would be so large as to be unwieldy, and therefore a reduction of the number of members would be an improvement.

MR. MADDISON (Sheffield, Brightside): I regret that the Chief Secretary has not seen his way to resist this Amendment. Great hopes have been raised in Ireland by this Bill, and as this clause, as carried by the Grand Committee, was not resisted by the Government on the Report stage, I thought there was at least some attempt being made to give to Ireland similar forms and methods to those we have in England. The right hon. Gentleman cannot point to a single technical instruction committee in any great city in England upon which there are no working men.

MR. G. W. BALFOUR was understood to point out that each district would have to appoint its own technical instruction committee to carry out the Act; therefore, Dublin, Cork, Belfast and every other county borough could appoint as many artisans as they thought fit to carry out the scheme.

MR. MADDISON: I follow that, but the principle is the same. If the principle has proved so good in the instances I have mentioned, surely it is not unreasonable to argue that it would prove equally good in regard to the Board to be set up by this Bill in Ireland. Therefore, I am quite certain the Chief Secretary has made, and is making, a great mistake. Ireland, more than any other part of the kingdom, ought to have a thorough system of technical education, and I am quite certain that unless you get the active sympathy of the organised workers and trades unions, you will have difficulties placed in your way that you would not have if you had their co-operation on this Board. There is one trades council I know more about than any other in Ireland, and that is that of Belfast. Really, the Chief Secretary cannot have made himself acquainted with the trades councils of Ireland, or if he has, he must certainly have omitted the Belfast Trades Council. With some little knowledge of these bodies, I am able to say there is not a trades council in the entire United Kingdom that displays more intelligence than that of the City of Belfast. They own an organ of their own, and they show in many ways just those qualities which are absolutely imperative if this Technical Instruction Board is to be a success. However, the Government have, as I think, unwisely, used the Lords in this instance to undo the work of the Grand Committee; and, not for the first time, we have to regret that the lack of knowledge and sympathy in the Upper House with these great industrial movements has again resulted in a very useful measure being made less useful than it would otherwise have been.

MR. STEADMAN (Tower Hamlets, Stepney): I rise to support my hon. friend in as few words as possible. The London County Council has a Technical Education Board. The composition of that Board is twenty members elected by the Council itself, and the London Trades Council, which is in a similar position to that of the trades councils of Belfast and Dublin, has three direct representatives upon that Board. The Chief Secretary for Ireland has said that this proposal would make the Board too large and unwieldy, but that is not my experience of the Technical Education Board in London. We have three representatives upon that Board, and I can assure the Chief Secretary that some of the most energetic of the members of that Board are elected by the London Trades Council. We are often told that Germany is driving this country out of the markets of the world. I served my time at a trade, and I suffered from the want of technical instruction, which I was unable to get in the workshop. My experience goes to prove that if you want the British workman to maintain his position, you must give him the same technical instruction as the workmen are able to get in Germany, and then they can hold their own with any nation in the civilised world. Therefore, I consider that the direct representation of the working classes on the Technical Instruction Board now to be established for Ireland is essen-

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tial. I hope the right hon. Gentleman does not look upon a .trades council as something bad and wicked, that is always creating strikes.

MR. G. W. BALFOUR: Certainly not.

MR. STEADMAN: I am glad to hear that denial. We are as anxious as we possibly can be that our lads shall not only be proficient, but shall be given that education which is necessary to turn out the brightest of mechanics; and the men who have had experience in the workshop, if placed upon this Board, would be able to give invaluable advice as to what class of instruction was required. I have received a telegram from the Dublin Trades Council, in which they very much regret the action taken by the House of Lords on this matter.

Several hon. MEMBERS: Read it.

MR. STEADMAN: The telegram reads as follows:—

"Parliamentary Committee—Irish Trades Congress meeting in Dublin to-day deeply regret elimination by the Lords from the Technical Instruction Board of direct workers representatives, and respectfully urge the Chief Secretary to take measures to secure the assistance of practical workers in the development of Irish technical education."

I fail to see why the Irish workman in this matter should be placed in a different position, and be treated worse than the English workman. If it is right for the working classes of London to be represented on what I consider to be one of the best technical boards we have in the whole of the country, I fail to see why the same principle should not be extended to Ireland.

MR. G. W. BALFOUR: It will be perfectly competent for the Board to elect representatives of the trades councils if they so desire.

MR. YOXALL (Nottingham, W.): I think it is highly desirable that there should be some representation of the working-classes in Ireland upon this Technical Instruction Board. The chief influence on the council will be that of the Commissioners of Education, and they are responsible for the very worst system of elementary education in all Europe. This Bill will be sure to fail to develop technical education in Ireland, because of the very bad system of elementary education which at present exists in Ireland.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order! That is not the question before the House.

MR. YOXALL: I was going to say that if working-men were placed on this Board they would see that elementary education was developed to such an extent as would enable it to be supplemented by technical instruction. For these reasons I very much regret the action of the House of Lords, and I hope the Irish Members will go to a Division upon this question.

Question put—

The House divided:—Ayes, 69; Noes, 47. (Division List, No. 362.)

AYES.

Ashmead-Bartlett, Sir Ellis
Atkinson, Rt. Hon. John
Balfour, Rt. Hn. A. J. (Manch'r)
Balfour, Rt. Hon. G. W. (Leeds
Barton, Dunbar Plunket
Bathurst, Hon. Allen Benjamin
Beresford, Lord Charles
Bethell, Commander
Bhownaggree, Sir M. M.
Bigwood, James
Bill, Charles
Blundell, Colonel Henry
Brassey, Albert
Brodrick, Rt. Hn. St. John
Bullard, Sir Harry
Butcher, John George
Cavendish, V. C. W. (Derbys.)
Chamberlain, Rt. Hn. J. (Birm.
Chamberlain, J. Austen (Worc.
Cochrane, Hon. Thos. H. A. E.
Coghill, Douglas Harry
Collings, Rt. Hon. Jesse
Colomb, Sir John Charles Ready
Cranborne, Viscount
Cripps, Charles Alfred
Douglas, Rt. Hon. A. Akers-
Drage, Geoffrey
Drucker, A.
Field, Admiral (Eastbourne)
Finlay, Sir Robert Bannatyne
Fisher, William Hayes
Flower, Ernest
Garfit, William
Goldsworthy, Major-General
Gray, Ernest (West Ham)
Greene, Henry D. (Shrewsbury)
Greene, W. Raymond-(Cambs.
Hanbury, Rt. Hon. Robert W.
Helder, Augustus
Howard, Joseph
Hozier, Hon. J. Henry Cecil
Kimber, Henry
Lawrence, W. F. (Liverpool)
Lockwood, Lt.-Col. A. R.
Loder, Gerald Walter Erskine
Long, Rt. Hn Walter (L'pool.)
Malcolm, Ian
Maxwell, Rt. Hn. Sir Herbert E.
Mellor, Colonel (Lancashire)
Moon, Edward Robert Pacy
Murray, Rt Hn A Graham (Bute

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Murray, Col. Wyndham (Bath)
Nicol, Donald Ninian
Powell, Sir Francis Sharp
Purvis, Robert
Ridley, Rt. Hn. Sir Matthew W.
Ritchie, Rt. Hn. Chas. Thomson
Royds, Clement Molyneux
Russell, T. W. (Tyrone)
Savory, Sir Joseph
Sharpe, William Edward T.
Stanley, Edward Jas. (Somerset
Stanley, Lord (Lancs.)
Tomlinson, W. E. Murray
Valentia, Viscount
Williams, J. Powell- (Birm.)
Wrightson, Thomas
Wyndham, George
Yerburgh, Robert Armstrong

TELLERS FOR THE AYES—Sir William Walrond and Mr. Anstruther.

NOES.

Ashton, Thomas Gair
Asquith, Rt. Hon. Herb. Henry
Birrel, Augustine
Broadhurst, Henry
Caldwell, James
Cameron, Robert (Durham)
Carew, James Laurence
Causton, Richard Knight
Channing, Francis Allston
Dalziel, James Henry
Dilke, Rt. Hon. Sir Charles
Fowler, Rt. Hon. Sir Henry
Gladstone, Rt. Hn. Herbert J.
Gourley, Sir Edw. Temperley
Hayne, Rt. Hon. Charles Seale-Hazell, Walter
Hogan, James Francis
Horniman, Frederick John
Jameson, Major J. Eustace
Johnston, William (Belfast)
Jones, Wm. (Carnarvonshire)
Kilbride, Denis
Lawson, Sir W. (Cumberland)
Lewis, John Herbert
Macaleese, Daniel
M'Arthur, William (Cornwall)
M'Ewan, William
M'Leod, John
Maddison, Fred
Mappin, Sir Frederick Thorpe
Molloy, Bernard Charles
O'Brien, James F. X. (Cork)
O'Connor, James (Wicklow, W.
Palmer, Sir C. M. (Durham)
Pickersgill, Edward Hare
Pirie, Duncan V.
Randell, David
Roberts, John Bryn (Eifion)
Robson, William Snowdon
Runciman, Walter
Steadman, William Charles
Sullivan, Donal (Westmeath)
Ure, Alexander
Whittaker, Thomas Palmer
Wilson, H. J. (York, W. R.)
Wilson, J. H. (Middlesbrough)
Yoxall, James Henry

TELLERS FOR THE NOES—Mr. Austin and Mr. T. P. O'Connor.

Remaining Amendments agreed to.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS BILL.

Lords Amendments considered and agreed to.

SMALL HOUSES (ACQUISITION OF OWNERSHIP) BILL.

Lords Amendments considered and agreed to.

PRIVATE LEGISLATION PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) BILL.

Lords Amendments considered.

Lords Amendments, as far as the Amendment in page 7, "leave out Clause 9, and insert Clause (A)," read a second time, and agreed to.

Lords Amendment in page 7, "leave out Clause 9, and insert Clause (A). (Procedure in case order is opposed)," the next Amendment, read a second time."

*SIR H. H. FOWLER (Wolverhampton): Not being a Scotch Member, I am quite willing to be guided, as regards the Bill generally, by hon. Gentlemen representing Scotch constituencies, but I must state that the House of Lords has done a most extraordinary thing in striking out clause 9 and inserting a new clause. The objection I take to this clause is that it is absolutely novel, and is, I think, a somewhat dangerous interference with the privileges of Parliament—using the phrase not in its technical, but in its ordinary sense. The House of Commons has ever been jealous of any interference in its internal procedure, and it has always kept it in its own hands. The House will recollect that in Clause 5 and other clauses the improvements in connection with Private Bill legislation are "subject to Standing Orders." The Government recognised that the House was the judge of its own procedure, and should itself decide whether any change was or was not necessary. As the Bill left this House it provided that if a petition were presented against the order contained in the Confirmation Bill, it should be referred to a Joint Committee of both Houses, thereby preserving Parliamentary control. The House of Lords has seen fit to modify that control, and has provided that it shall not be brought into action simply on the petition of any person deeming himself aggrieved, but that the House of Lords or the House of Commons must by Resolution determine whether the petition should be inquired into. The House of Lords has inserted a clause that a motion on the part of any Member that the Bill be referred to a Joint Committee of both Houses may be debated on the Second Reading of the Bill. That is rather

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a condescending act on the part of the House of Lords. But the clause further provides that after the Bill has been read a second time the motion shall thereupon be put without Amendment or further debate. I cannot conceive the First Lord of the Treasury, almost on the last day of the session, and in the absence of many Members who have taken a very great interest in this Bill, accepting an Amendment affecting the rights and privileges of the House of Commons, subjecting its debates to statutory control, and placing the power to alter its procedure at the mercy of the House of Lords. Whether the Amendment be right or wrong on its merits, its acceptance under the circumstances would be most unconstitutional, and would be I do not hesitate to say a most outrageous exercise of the despotic power of a Government majority at the end of the session in order to make such a vast change in the procedure of Parliament. I therefore move to omit from "any" in line 5 to "debate" in line 8. If it is deemed desirable that any one stage of a Bill should not be debated, and should be decided at once, I venture to submit that the proper mode of doing that would be to incorporate a clause in the Standing Orders. If our rights as to Debate are to be abridged, they ought to be abridged by the House itself and not by any outside party. Apart from its merits, I hope the First Lord of the Treasury, who has always shown himself a strict guardian of the privileges of the House and of the rights of minorities, will not press this Amendment on us at this period of the session.

Amendment proposed to Lords Amendment—

"In line 6, to leave out from the word 'Parliament,' to the word 'If,' in line 9."—(*Sir H. H. Fowler.*)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Lords Amendment."

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. A. GRAHAM MURRAY, Buteshire): Had the right hon. Gentleman been more interested in the course of this Bill, he would, I think, have been more conversant with this clause; for the proposal made in the House of Lords was not so made on any initiative on their part. Let me remind the House of what happened. Under the Bill as it stood when it was debated on the Second Reading, there was a right on the part of an opponent to demand a re-hearing of his case before a Joint Committee of the two Houses. I may remark, in passing, that even that was what has been properly called an infringement of the rights of Parliament over its own procedure. But it is impossible to effect a reform of Private Bill Procedure, unless you do it by Act of Parliament. At the Report stage a very strong representation was made to me, as representing the Government, to give up this right to demand a re-hearing. These appeals came from two very distinct quarters. They came from several hon. Members behind me, supporters of the Government, who, against their own views, loyally voted with me upon the position which I felt it my duty to take on that occasion. The appeals were reiterated from the Bench on which the right hon. Gentleman sits, and they were voiced by the right hon. Gentleman under whose leadership, I believe, the right hon. Gentleman is proud to range himself—the right hon. Gentleman the Member for the Stirling Burghs. I was appealed to again and again not to give up the idea of the absolute right of an opponent to demand a re-hearing. Well, what did I do? I promised that I would use whatever influence I possessed that such an Amendment, if necessary, should be made in another place. What happened in another place? They were not able to see eye to eye with the right hon. Gentleman, in so far as to give up appeal altogether; but a certain *via media* was suggested, namely, that although the right of appeal was to be preserved, it should rest with the two Houses to say whether a particular person had a right of appeal or not. That had to be done in some way or another. The original motion put down would have suited the procedure of the House of Lords, but it was absolutely unsuitable for the procedure of the House of Commons. Hon. Members may be aware that in another place it is possible that a motion may be put down at any time, and on that motion speeches may be made at any time. That is not the procedure here, under our Standing Orders. Therefore, it was absolutely necessary, if you would have a right of appeal, to utilise it on the Second Reading, and that is the meaning of this Amendment. There is no restriction of

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Debate. It is simply that, instead of having this as a motion attached to nothing, it is a motion to be debated on the Second Reading of the Bill. And then, after that, there is not to be had a fresh Debate, which would be an entire novelty in Private Bill Procedure, but there is to be a Division there and then upon the matter. More than that, I took steps to find out the feeling of hon. Members opposite, and submitted this very clause to the right hon. Gentleman the Member for the Stirling Burghs, and it had his approval. So far from this being an attempt on the part of the House of Lords or of the Government to impose any restriction on the procedure of the House of Commons, that is the very last thing dreamt of on our part. What we had to get was a stage of procedure on which this motion could be made, and the best stage was the Second Reading. Therefore, it is no curtailment or limitation of the powers or privileges of the House of Commons to say that it should be discussed at the Second Reading stage.

MR. ASQUITH (Fifeshire, E.): The right hon. Gentleman devoted the larger part of his remarks to a question not raised by the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Wolverhampton, and not in any way involved in the Amendment before the House. I am not, myself, disposed to quarrel with him upon the proposal that it is desirable that the House should have a voice in this matter, and that it should not rest merely on a caprice of a petitioner to require a reference of the Bill to a Joint Committee of the two Houses. That is not the point raised by the Amendment. The question is whether, admitting that it is desirable to give both Houses that power of control over the initiative of the petition, this House is to be restrained in its procedure, when such a proposal is made, by a provision for which I say there is no precedent whatever in any Act of Parliament. The right hon. Gentleman says that this step should be taken at a certain stage in the progress of the Bill. But what is proposed here is, that the motion to refer the Bill to a Joint Committee should be debated at the Second Reading. I pause to remark that it is impossible to conceive of such a thing. The question of the Second Reading of a Bill is, what are the merits of the Bill as a legislative proposal, and it would be quite contrary to the true idea of order, if on a Debate on a Second Reading we should go on to a totally independent and irrelevant inquiry, as to what tribunal the Bill should go to. Therefore, we are asked in the first place to introduce an entirely irrelevant inquiry, and then, when that is over, and the Bill read a second time, in the words of the clause, "The question thereon should be put without Amendment and without Debate," and we are to be debarred from discussion. I agree with the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Wolverhampton that that is an entirely novel departure in Parliamentary procedure. The House of Lords has never attempted to impose any such condition on the House of Commons before. We have always preserved, and rightly preserved, the strictest liberty to apply our own Standing Orders to our own procedure. If the words which my right hon. friend objects to are put on the Statute Book, we shall have imposed upon us a cast-iron procedure which may lead to very grave and serious results.

MR. CALDWELL (Lanarkshire, Mid): I quite agree that there was a benevolent intention on the part of the Government to meet an objection which came from this side of the House against the expediency of a second trial. Supposing this Amendment is accepted, the clause will remain as operative without these words as with them, so far as the control of the House over the Bill is concerned. The right of this House is to have full control over its own procedure by its own Standing Orders. But the effect of putting these words into an Act of Parliament is that the House of Commons would have no power to alter its procedure without the consent of the House of Lords. Obviously a matter of that kind cannot be tolerated.

CAPTAIN SINCLAIR (Forfarshire): The Lord Advocate has not addressed himself to the point raised by my right hon. friend. It seems very inconvenient at this time of the session that we should be called upon to discuss an interference by the House of Lords with an import-

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ant part of the procedure of the House of Commons. Any proposal to interfere with the procedure of this House must cause the gravest dissatisfaction. The objection to be urged against the Lords' Amendment in its present form, is that it interferes with the procedure of this House in a way which has no precedent in former legislation and in a way which will interfere very seriously with Debate. A Second Reading Debate must be different to a Debate on a motion to refer a Bill to a Committee where it is discussed in detail. In Second Reading the Debate is confined to the merits. The words proposed to be omitted form no integral part of the clause, and without them the clause will be less open to objection.

THE FIRST LORD OF THE TREASURY (Mr. A. J. BALFOUR, Manchester, E.): So far as I can judge, the importance of the question brought before us has been considerably exaggerated by the hon. Gentlemen who have spoken on the other side. They have done full justice to the intention of the Government in having accepted the Lords Amendment with the view to meet the trend of Scottish opinion on both sides of the House. The question is whether the form in which we have endeavoured to give effect to that desire carries with it as an accidental circumstance undue interference with the procedure of the House. In the consequential issue raised there is danger of confusing the attributes of the House as a Court of Appeal, as the House is in regard to Private Bill legislation, and its functions as an independent branch of the Legislature, possessing, as it should possess, full constitutional right to criticise every Government action and every legislative proposal. It would be intolerable that any statute should be allowed to interfere with this right, but I confess I do not see how it is possible, without interfering with Standing Orders, to reconstitute the two Houses of Parliament from the point of view of a tribunal dealing with Private Bill legislation. The Bill as it left the House interfered with the right of the House to discuss certain stages to a graver extent than the Amendment to which exception has been taken. Anxious to diminish as far as possible causes of difference at the final stage of the Bill, I propose that in lieu of the right hon. Gentleman's Amendment the words in the Lords Amendment from the end of line 4 down to "Bill" in line 8 should be omitted and the following words substituted, "and in that case such motion may be moved immediately after the Bill has been read a second time, and if carried," etc. With those words full liberty of discussion would remain with the House.

SIR H. H. FOWLER: It seems to me that the Amendment of the right hon. Gentleman will remove most of the objections which I raise, but I desire that there shall be no mistake between the two sides as to this.

Amendment to Lords Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Lords Amendment agreed to, with an Amendment.

Remaining Amendments agreed to.

MESSAGE FROM THE LORDS.

That they have agreed to—

COLONIAL LOANS BILL.

INEBRIATES' ACT (1898) AMENDMENT BILL.

NAVAL WORKS BILL.

TELEGRAPHS (TELEPHONIC COMMUNICATION, ETC.) BILL.

ROYAL NIGER COMPANY BILL.

LAND TAX COMMISSIONERS' NAMES BILL.

PATRIOTIC FUND BILL.

RESERVE FORCES BILL.

MILITARY WORKS BILL.

EXPIRING LAWS CONTINUANCE BILL.

PUBLIC WORKS (LOANS) BILL.

TANCRED'S CHARITIES SCHEME CONFIRMATION BILL.

BATHS AND WASHHOUSES ACTS AMENDMENT BILL.

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Amendments to—

BOARD OF EDUCATION BILL [Lords].

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION (DEFECTIVE AND EPILEPTIC CHILDREN) BILL [Lords].

POOR LAW ACTS AMENDMENT BILL [Lords].

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT PROVISIONAL ORDER CONFIRMATION (LONDON) BILL [Lords].

CROMER PROTECTION BILL [Lords].

OLDHAM CORPORATION BILL [Lords].

NORTH-EASTERN AND HULL AND BARNSLEY RAILWAYS (JOINT DOCKS) BILL [Lords].

FYLDE WATER BOARD BILL [Lords].

SALFORD CORPORATION BILL [Lords].

WAKEFIELD CORPORATION BILL [Lords].

BIRMINGHAM, NORTH WARWICKSHIRE, AND STRATFORD-UPON-AVON RAILWAY BILL [Lords].

LONDON AND SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAY BILL [Lords].

MANCHESTER CORPORATION TRAMWAYS BILL [Lords].

PAISLEY AND BARRHEAD DISTRICT RAILWAY BILL [Lords].

PORTSMOUTH CORPORATION BILL [Lords].

ROCHDALE CANAL BILL [Lords].

SOUTHPORT AND LYTHAM TRAMROAD BILL [Lords].

WOLVERHAMPTON CORPORATION BILL [Lords].

WORKINGTON CORPORATION BILL [Lords].

LINCOLNSHIRE CORONERS BILL [Lords].

Without Amendment.

That they request that this House will be pleased to communicate to their Lordships Copies of the Reports from the Select Committees appointed by this House in the present session of Parliament on—

1. Cottage Homes Bill;
2. Metropolitan Gas Companies;
3. Aged Deserving Poor;

together with the Proceedings of the Committees and Minutes of Evidence.

Lords Message requesting Copies of Reports from the Select Committees on Cottage Homes Bill, Metropolitan Gas Companies, and Aged Deserving Poor, considered.

Printed Copies to be communicated.

CONSOLIDATED FUND (APPROPRIATION) BILL.

Order for Second Reading read.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a second time."

*SIR CHARLES DILKE (Gloucestershire, Forest of Dean): In the present condition of the House of Commons anyone who speaks at length upon questions, however important, will be looked upon as an enemy of the human race. The present predominance of the South African question has a tendency to prevent people from thinking of other questions, however important they may be. But I cannot think that the question of the franchise in the Transvaal and of the privileges of the Uitlanders, however important it may be, and however much we are committed by our past action, ought to prevent people in this country from turning their attention to other matters. There are a few questions which I want to put concerning a subject which, to my mind, is more important than the South African question. I mean our relations with China, and the future of that country. The arrangement with Russia in regard to China, which was criticised in the last Debate which took place on foreign affairs, is one which, as was pointed out, concerns only the Yang-tsze Valley and Manchuria, and takes no account of the enormously important portions of the Chinese Empire which lie between the Yang-tsze Valley and Manchuria. Even

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the northern part of the Yang-tsze Valley is not included in our arrangements for patrol, and, therefore, they do not preserve our interests in the Yang-tsze Valley as a whole. Still less do they guarantee in any way our position in the capital. The first question that I should like to put to the Under Secretary is, what are the present relations of this country with the Chinese Government in regard to the concessions granted in the Province of Shan-si, which is in the intermediate neighbourhood of Pekin? The matter was brought forward by Lord Salisbury in another place last session, and both Lord Salisbury and the then Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs in this House spoke of these concessions as most valuable, and of the granting of them as one of the principal privileges to the people of this country that the Government had secured. I want to know whether matters are going on satisfactorily in that direction, and whether the Government believe that we have, under our existing arrangements, any means of protecting these interests against invasion by other interests. This intermediate district between the Yang-tsze Valley and Manchuria also includes the German sphere of influence. The noble Lord the Member for York, in his book and in his speech in this House, brought forward a policy of joint action in China—of a peaceful kind as I understand it—with the United States, Germany and Japan. The Government replied that whatever might be the case with regard to Japan, as regards the United States and Germany they saw great difficulties in the way. The United States were willing enough to act with us in regard to commercial rights and the open door, but they would not, as the noble Lord admitted, entangle themselves in any way by promises that might in the future be inconvenient to them. With regard to Germany, the Government said it was not likely that Germany would entangle herself in China, looking to the importance to her of friendly relations with Russia in Europe, and to the dangers which might menace her frontier if she adopted an anti-Russian policy in China. I think, however, having regard to the fact that the German sphere of influence is in this intermediate district, that the capital is there, and that we have great interests there, that without menacing Russia or anyone else, and without in any way pointing to an armed occupation of the country, there might be common action between Germany and ourselves merely in defence of rights already acknowledged as existing. I believe that Germany has already indicated some willingness to co-operate with us in that direction, and I should be glad to know what the Government have to tell the House as to their policy with regard to this important intermediate district. In this district lies the seat of any future Russian railway to Pekin. I somewhat regret the advice which has been given to the Chinese Government with regard to that railway, and the manner in which it has been referred to in this House. I cannot think that our influence in Pekin is promoted by our giving advice when we are not likely to push it further, and where the whole course of trade and railway construction in China seems to show for a certainty that in the long run it will be disregarded, and the railway made. It seems to me to be a very doubtful policy to embark in. I want to know what has happened on this subject since the last Debate. Statements have been made with some show of authority—they may be true or false; I do not wish to commit myself to them in any way—that the Russian Government have assured our Government that they do not intend to press this scheme; but it is also stated with the same show of authority that on the very day on which this statement was made to our Government pressure was applied by the Russian Government at Pekin, insisting in the most peremptory way on the making of the branch line to the Chinese capital. I do not know whether the Government can give us any information on the subject. I know that it is a delicate one, but I think they will not be astonished that there should be a feeling in the House in favour of asking them, at all events, to state what they can in regard to their policy in the matter.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD (York): I do not quite agree with the right hon. Baronet as to the importance of the affairs of China above those of the Transvaal. I do not think there is any immediate danger of war in China, but I do think there is danger of war in the Transvaal. The right hon. Baronet referred to

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a proposal I made to take over the Chinese army. I only suggested that that army should be placed on the same footing as the Maritime Customs in China. A British bank is at the head of those customs, and I maintain that with British control over the army it would be easy to get foreign officers for it, and to invite any countries to invest their capital in China. When that step is taken there will be very little chance of war. I cannot sit down without reminding my right hon. friend—who seems to think that the whole of my remarks were made in after-dinner speeches in China—that I was a teetotaler all the time. I think the issue put before the public in the case of the Transvaal is a wrong one. The issue put before the public is the question of the franchise, and as far as I can see and learn I do not believe it would be possible that we should ever be able to go to war over the franchise. There have been gross exaggerations on both sides. My view is that the whole issue at stake in this country is a question of our being paramount at the Cape. It is a trading and commercial question, and one which also involves our strategical position at the Cape. The subject that is irritating the people is the grievances of the Uitlanders, and we are bound as the suzerain Power to see those grievances redressed. There is no doubt a greal deal of soreness between the white races at the Cape. On the British side there is soreness over the defeat at Majuba, and on the other side there is soreness about the infamous Raid, which both in design and execution was contemptible. The question to be put before the country is the question of the grievances of the Uitlanders. The First Lord of the Treasury very properly said the other day that the present state of affairs could not continue. What are we going to do? The Opposition continually say, "Let us have a firm and friendly policy." Very well. I can understand a friendly policy, but where does the firm part come in? If you have an argument with a man and he says he won't agree with you, how are you to be firm unless you compel him to do so? My view is that the Government are perfectly right in making these preparations, which are necessary in case we unfortunately have hostilities at the Cape. For my part I do not believe that there will be any war at all, and I will give my reasons. One is that there is no foreign State or empire behind the Boers to back them up; another is that the Raad are certainly in front of the President in regard to the reforms, notably the dynamite concession; and, thirdly, there has not been a single meeting of Boers which has demanded war with England. They have all said, "Let the President settle it." I do not believe in war myself, but I do believe in taking steps to prevent it, in having troops sent out to South Africa, and in showing the Boers that this country has taken up a firm, strong, and clear attitude. The right hon. Gentleman the Member for Bodmin said the Colonial Secretary had made threats. He has never made any threat at all, and his speech was most clear and courteous. As a matter of fact, there is no real opposition against what the Government are doing, but, unless this Transvaal question is settled on the lines laid down by the Government, there is very great danger to the Empire. Our Empire is too large. We have not enough soldiers to police it properly, especially if we have disturbances and difficulties with other nations. I hope that the Transvaal question will be settled on peaceful lines, which I believe will be the case if the Government continue the policy they are now pursuing.

Lord Charles Beresford.

*MR. GEOFFREY DRAGE (Derby): As the question of the Transvaal has been raised, I desire to express my warm support of the Government. I believe the speeches of the right hon. Gentlemen the Colonial Secretary and the First Lord of the Treasury have given the utmost satisfaction to the country. I may say that no less than sixty meetings have been held, attended by 40,000 people, and at each meeting a resolution of confidence in Sir Alfred Milner has been passed. Sir Alfred Milner is worthy of the warmest support not only of hon. Members on both sides of the House, but also of the country at large. He has filled a most important position during a time of exceptional difficulty, and has shown on more than one occasion how much can be done by a High Commissioner in South Africa merely through force of character. I should like to refer the House to the White Paper recently published on Basutoland. The words are so remarkable, I should like to read them

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to the House. Mr. Lagden says, speaking of the resolution of Sir Alfred Milner:

"It was no less a strength to me than a manifestation to the natives, who began to realise, for the first time, perhaps, in recent years, that constitutional orders would be carried out, and that the advice of the Queen's representative was intended to be obeyed."

The case of the Uitlanders has been laid before the House more than once. It is not necessary, so late in the session, to go into facts which are common knowledge. But the details should not be forgotten; they should be kept before the country. It is almost incredible that citizens of an empire like our own should be subject to these grievances, and no redress found for them. Another point in regard to this Transvaal trouble is that these grievances, and the spirit of contention and disorder that is engendered, are preventing the realisation of what seems to me to be one of the greatest hopes of Great Britain in South Africa, viz., the federalisation of all the States of South Africa. I am one of those who are sanguine enough to believe that if the Colonial Secretary remains in office it will be given to him, as the crown of his policy in South Africa, to see the realisation of the federation of the different countries making up South Africa, as it has been his good fortune to see the federation of the whole of what will be the Australian Dominion. The question which has been raised by the right hon. Baronet is one of great importance. It is too frequently the case, as Lord Randolph Churchill once said, that public attention is only directed to one great subject at a time. It is almost impossible to focus public attention on more than one great question. It seems to me we should try to concentrate the Imperial activities as far as possible, but there is a danger that what has been going on in China might be forgotten. In South Africa there are two elements of strong foreign policy; first, the material interest, and, secondly, what appeals to democrats more than anything else—the larger ideal of liberty and justice. So, too, with China. We are now finding not only that we have material interests at stake, but that we are able to promote liberty and justice among the people. I particularly rose for the purpose of directing the attention of the House to the new reform party, and to ask the right hon. Gentleman the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether he could give us any information as to the attitude of the Government with regard to that party. Hitherto the reform party has been little known in this country. But a new reform party has arisen during the present year which is supported all over the provinces; it is, in fact, far stronger in the provinces than in Pekin, and whereas in former times it was opposed by the Dowager Empress, information has reached me today that the Dowager Empress has been converted, and is willing to give her support to the reform movement. This reform movement is also supported by Japan, and it is extremely necessary to know what will be the attitude of Her Majesty's Government on the question. Information has reached me that the Japanese are being solicited by China, through a secret mission which left Shanghai for Tokio on July 8th, to enter into an offensive and defensive alliance on certain conditions. Japan demands the reform of the civil service, including, perhaps, maritime customs, that the administration should be reformed, with Japanese either as head or second in command in the departments, including a new Board of Works—in fact that the Japanese model of administration should be adopted throughout the Chinese Empire. The great difficulty, as the House is aware, in getting reforms promoted by the Japanese in China is that the Dowager Empress, who has hitherto been extremely hostile, has surrounded herself with a number of advisers who are strong supporters of the Russian Power. Now, however, if the information which has reached me is even approximately correct, we shall find ourselves face to face with the rivalry of Japan or China. Therefore the question which arises in my mind is whether, in the sphere of influence which has been marked out for us, we are going to undertake the rôle which Japan propose to play in other portions of the Chinese Empire. First and foremost, it will be necessary to demarcate our sphere, and secondly, now that this country has undertaken to police the waterways of the Yang-tsze Valley, we must organise a system of land police as well. Then again, our commerce will not expand in China unless there is a reorganisation of the law courts and the commercial code, for the present courts

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are corrupt and there are no general principles of commercial law in the Chinese system. With that, of course, there must also be a reorganisation of the Chinese system of finance. Under the present system it is calculated there is a leakage of something like twenty-five millions sterling a year. It may not be possible for the right hon. Gentleman to make a statement on these subjects. I merely submit these facts for the information of the House, and ask the House to recollect that it is not a question, so far as China is concerned, of anyone desiring to annex any more territory. The right of this country to rule rests not on conquest, but on the moral administration she has been able to produce in the countries under her sway. I think the noble Lord, the Member for York, referred to the crux of the question with regard to China. It is absolutely impossible for us to carry on the Empire we have unless administrators are to be found in sufficient quantity. On the other hand, may I remind the noble Lord that there is another necessity of Empire, and that is bringing the electorate into touch with the Government on all these foreign questions. On all the big foreign questions, at any rate, there must be something like what was once called "a Fashoda atmosphere." I do not mean an atmosphere of excitement; I mean an attitude of determination founded on knowledge. I should like to point out that both from the noble Lord's point of view and from my own there appears good reason for those who are engaged in conducting foreign affairs and for those officers who, like Sir Alfred Milner and Sir Claude Macdonald, are conducting the business of the country abroad, to do their work in the confidence, not only that others will be found to carry it on when they have done, but that the country here at home will go with them in what they do. The two great movements which are so strong at the end of this present century are little understood in foreign countries and little studied here at home. The public school system is giving us the administrators for which the noble Lord asks, and those great organisations of the working-classes are bringing the attention of the country to bear on the great trade and labour problems both on this side and on the other side of the ocean. It is, Sir, because I believe that the country will be able to undertake with full confidence both the task in the Transvaal and the task in China that I have ventured to occupy the time of the House.

*SIR E. ASHMEAD - BARTLETT (Sheffield, Eccleshall): I think the House will agree that the hon. Gentleman who has just sat down has made an exceedingly interesting speech, and given the House some information which we hope may prove to be well founded I was rather surprised to hear the noble Lord, the Member for York, with most of whose remarks I agree, say that the British Empire was too large, and express some doubt as to whether capable administrators would be found for any fresh demand that might be made upon the English people. I think the noble Lord will admit that there has no occasion yet arisen in which this country has not been able to produce the man and the men—and thoroughly capable men—necessary for administrative work in distant countries. This country is fortunate in possessing what no other country in the world possesses—namely, a highly educated, highly patriotic, and highly intelligent upper middle class; and from that upper middle class there have been drawn, and is being drawn, and will be drawn the administrators of the vast Empire of which this country is the centre, even though that empire by force of circumstances and of commerce be extended. I do not share the fear of the noble Lord upon that point. The question of China, which was raised by the right hon. Baronet, the Member for the Forest of Dean, has not lost its importance because it has less occupied the public eye of late. The Transvaal question has, indeed, occupied the whole of the public attention; but the answer to the right hon. Baronet is that the Transvaal crisis is imminent and must be dealt with. The Chinese danger is great, and more or less acute, but it can and must wait. One of the main reasons for the necessity of settling the Transvaal crisis is that if it is allowed to go on we may next year be confronted with a Chinese crisis at the same time as we are dealing with the Transvaal crisis. For the last two months the Transvaal crisis has filled the air, and there has been little heard of the Chinese peril. This silence is unfortunately not, as in some cases, a good sign. The danger is still

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there, and is increasing. The aggressive advance of the Russian Power upon the independence of China still continues, and the resisting power of the Chinese Government does not increase. Russia is augmenting and consolidating her military and political strength in Manchuria, while we look on with folded arms, encouraging ourselves with the fond delusion that the sphere of the Yang-tsze-Kiang valley, undefended and indefensible as it is, will not be affected by the iron grip which Russia is fastening upon the rich provinces and teeming population of Northern China. In the last five years there have been four stages in the advance of the Russian Power, or rather in the surrender of the British Government. First, there was the pitiful abandonment of our gallant friends the Japanese in 1894-5 by the late Radical Government. The sufferance by England of the expulsion of the Japanese from Port Arthur was the source of all our misfortunes since, the *fons et origo mali*. It was one of the biggest and most costly blunders ever committed by a British Government. It deprived us of a splendid and natural bulwark against the Southern advance of Russia, and left Port Arthur and all Manchuria, and indeed, as we are now discovering, all Chi-li and Pekin itself open to Russian encroachment and conquest. Next came the extraordinary "ice free port" speech of the First Lord of the Treasury at Bristol, in December, 1897, in which, without any apparent cause, he invited the Russians to occupy an "ice free port" in the Yellow Sea, an invitation they responded to with an alacrity and completeness which much astonished the platonic inviter. The "ice free port" first became the fortress and arsenal of Port Arthur with a railway through Manchuria, and then became the practical annexation of Manchuria and Niuchwang, and control over China up to the Great Wall, with infinite capacity for extension. The third blunder was the pusillanimous withdrawal of our squadrom from Port Arthur in April, 1898, when it should rather have been reinforced—one of these inexplicable proceedings which it is impossible to defend, or even to understand. The fourth blunder was the extraordinary railway convention with Russia of June last, by which the Russian railway sphere was wantonly extended by Her Majesty's Government up to the Great Wall, and without any necessity or any apparent *quid pro quo*. This was immediately followed by the Russian demand for a direct railway to Pekin, a demand which still remains, and which Russia intends to enforce. This railway, if made, will mean the absolute control and absorption by Russia of Pekin and all Northern China. There has, however, quite of late appeared one ray of brightness and comfort in this ever-blackening horizon. This relief comes from the east, and not from the west. The keen and progressive people of Japan are moving for the protection of China, and moving in the right direction. The visit of that able statesman, the Marquis of Ito, to Pekin has borne fruit. The Japanese are doing exactly what we should have been doing for the past four years. Let us hope Her Majesty's Government at last realise that co-operation with Japan is our main lever and hope in the East. With Japan we can do exactly as we please in the Northern Pacific, whereas without Japan our task will be arduous, and even difficult. For five years I have been urging this Anglo-Japanese *entente* as the best and almost the only means of saving China and of upholding British interests in those regions. I trust that at last Her Majesty's Government have, even with slow and halting feet, realised this vital principle of politics, and that Japan will have all our support in her useful and beneficent efforts. All that is needed is that the British fleet should hold the ring for the Japanese. On land Japan can easily deal with Russian aggression. There is only one policy for this country, and that is the maintenance of the independence of China and the absolute exclusion of Russian military and political control. A question was raised on Friday upon which I wish to say a few words. Some hon. Members, and even, I regret to say, one or two on this side of the House, advocated the barefaced confiscation of the Cyprus tribute in a way which a few years ago would have been scouted by every honest politician. The tribute paid by Cyprus to Turkey is based on a solemn convention and treaty, which we have no more right as a nation to disregard than the hon. Member for Northamptonshire would have to tear up a mortgage deed and repudiate the loan based upon it. I was glad to find that the Secretary of State for the Colonies gave no encouragement to this international freebooting. But I wish to ask a ques-

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tion of the Chancellor of the Exchequer regarding the proposed conversion of the Cyprus tribute, which was arranged some time back, and which would be advantageous to all parties. Why has not that conversion been completed? Is it because the Foreign Office have been seeking to deduct from the payment that would be due to Turkey under that conversion certain claims against Turkey which arise from wholly different matters, and which have no relation whatever to the Cyprus tribute? If this be so, it must be considered as most unfortunate, and can only cause great irritation without doing any good. The country would be relieved if the Colonial Secretary would make some definite statement regarding the negotiations between Her Majesty's Government and President Kruger, and as to the actual relations between the Suzerain Power and the Transvaal before Parliament rises. The franchise concession has been made by the Colonial Secretary the key of the position, but the difficulties of the Transvaal will be by no means settled, even if the full demands of Sir Alfred Milner are accepted by the Volksraad. Such questions as the independence and honesty of the Transvaal High Court, the impartial and uncorrupt administration of the country, the removal of religious disabilities, the equal benefits of education and language, and the just incidence of taxation are almost, if not quite, as important as that of the franchise—a rather *doctrinaire* remedy, which, after all, is only a means to an end, and a means that a great number of the Transvaal Uitlanders do not ardently desire. Moreover, the bare gift of the franchise by the Volksraad can be easily neutralised by those restrictive conditions and artifices in which the Boers have proved themselves quite past masters, and which would prevent any effective addition of Uitlanders to the electoral power of the Transvaal. These are details, and very important details. The main thing, however, is that Her Majesty's Government should make it plain to President Kruger and to the Boer Executive and Volksraad—that is, to the thirty-three persons who are absolute masters of the Transvaal, with more than a Venetian absolutism—that no evasion or shuffling will be permitted, and that the settlement made now must be complete, final, and must be honestly observed. There has been too much palaver and too much "soft sawder" in all this Transvaal business. The result has been that for eighteen long years the Boer President has played a successful game of bounce, and England and British interests and the rights of the Uitlanders have been steadily driven down hill. No subject has been the centre of so many myths, of such huge humbug, and of so much pseudo-glorification as the Boer government of the Transvaal. The Boers are not even the original proprietors of the country. They are only interlopers of some forty-seven years' standing, who have oppressed the real aborigines in the most barbarous and cruel way. They are not the majority of the white population, nor the best part of it, nor the most industrious. They number less than two-fifths of the white population, they pay less than one-sixth of the taxation, and they have not one-tenth part of the education of their Uitlander neighbours. The Boer Republic is a sham, and a republic only in name. It is in fact a corrupt oligarchy, worked by a handful of clever and designing persons for their own benefit, dependent for its existence upon prejudice and race hatred, and employing all the worst, most venal, and most tyrannical methods of the most unscrupulous autocracy in the world, in order to maintain its power. The Kruger *régime* is in fact a vast extortion machine. The present Boer resistance to our just demands is not a struggle for liberty or justice, for there is neither liberty nor justice under the Transvaal Government. It is simply a struggle for unjust and monstrous speculation—a last effort of a most corrupt oligarchy to keep its hold over a rich and promising field of exploitation. I have heard a number of persons, even some Conservative Members of Parliament, say, "Oh, but a determined policy means war, and a war about such a question as the Uitlanders' franchise would not be popular." This kind of statement, which has been very common of late, involves three fallacies—gross fallacies. First, a firm attitude would not mean war. It is the only way to preserve the peace and to avoid war. We found this the case in the Fashoda question, where England had to deal with a highly civilised and powerful country. Since Fashoda our relations with France have steadily improved, and I trust may continue to be most friendly. How much more is a firm and strong policy necessary in dealing with an ignorant and prejudiced government

Sir E. Ashmead-Bartlett.

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like the Kruger oligarchy. I entirely agree with Mr. Rhodes that there is no danger of war if only Her Majesty's Government give up trying to put salt on President Kruger's tail, and avoid sentimental and misleading periphrases, and stand to their guns with unequivocal tenacity. It may be necessary to have a *corps d'armée* under orders for the Cape; but there will be little risk of war. The second fallacy is that the franchise is the only question at issue. The real question at issue is the future of South Africa, the establishment of British predominance in South Africa on a lasting and unshakeable basis, or the probable loss of our rich and splendid colonies in that vast region. The Afrikander Bond, now so powerful, is not a loyal society. It is an Anti-British combination subsidised by the Kruger oligarchy, and labouring to set up a United States of South Africa, wholly independent of the British Crown and with the Boer element predominant. Now is the critical moment. The real question is whether this free and mighty Empire of England shall allow scores of thousands of her children, who are resident in the Transvaal, who have made its prosperity, and who pay nine-tenths of its taxation, to be denied all civil and political rights, to be treated as helots by an oligarchy inferior in every way, and to be subject to every kind of injustice, abuse, extortion, and even violence. These are the questions which are at issue, and not a paltry dispute about the franchise, as some of my hon. friends have seemed to think. They are the greatest issues for which a nation or an empire can undertake a struggle—dominion and justice. The Colonial Secretary has at last risen to the height of the occasion, and in his speech of Friday, the 28th July, showed a complete grasp of the situation. He then, for the first time, put the issue on its real basis, viz., the maintenance or the loss of British supremacy in South Africa. I may be allowed a little pardonable satisfaction in feeling that the views the right hon. Gentleman now so eloquently advocates are precisely those which I urged in more moderate language upon this House three years ago, and even five years ago, and which he then contemned. But I do not wish to be captious. If the deeds of the Colonial Secretary are as resolute as his words are reassuring, the result must be satisfactory. And I should like also to pay a warm tribute to the declaration the Prime Minister made on the same day, which was of a most admirable and satisfactory nature. But, Sir, the third fallacy involved in this statement, about a war for the franchise being probably unpopular, is the worst of all. It is to base the decision of war upon the phrase "popular." I cannot imagine a more pernicious or more discreditable criterion. A war must be entered upon, not because it is for the moment popular or unpopular, but because it is necessary for great national or imperial interests, or because it is demanded by vital claims of justice. Such a war, undertaken of necessity and carried through with vigour and success, is bound to be popular. The result of foreign policy is judged by its ultimate success or failure, and not by the breezes of the moment; least of all by the outcries of an artful and unscrupulous Opposition, who will be the first to denounce the Government for the disastrous results of that very weakness which the Opposition itself has encouraged. But I will tell those timid gentlemen who have been prating about "unpopularity," what would be really unpopular, what would lose them their seats at the General Election, and what would cause the certain fall of the present Government. It would be a continuance of the present crisis, through the possible weakness of Her Majesty's Ministers. It would be a period of drift and surrender, to be followed with absolute certainty by a worse Transvaal crisis next year, and a crisis most probably synchronous with a far more dangerous crisis in the Far East. That is the alternative to a decisive policy now, and it is an alternative which even the most faint-hearted will hardly desire when they realise what it means. Parliament has been most liberal in its subsidies for national defence to the present Government. The country cheerfully accepts the expenditure of £51,000,000 a year in order to accomplish great national and Imperial results. But the English people will never endure such expenditure unless it is accompanied by security, by success, by the effective maintenance of British interests and of British rights wherever they are imperilled. The country expects that the Transvaal crisis will be settled promptly, effectively, permanently, and with honour to the British flag. If that be done the Government will have

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nothing to fear from the criticisms of the Opposition. A long-standing, dangerous, and aggravating question will be laid at rest, a humiliating stain upon British credit will be effaced, and British predominance in South Africa will be rendered unchallengeable.

*MR. W. F. LAWRENCE (Liverpool, Abercromby): I think the Government are to be congratulated upon the amount of appreciation which they have received from the various speakers with regard to their foreign policy, and I entirely associate myself with those views. With regard to the Transvaal, the question is very simple and may be kept within a very short compass. There should be equality of treatment for all our English subjects in the Transvaal, and the suzerainty and supremacy of this country in South Africa is clearly a policy which must be maintained. While other speakers have dwelt at length upon the propriety of extending our Empire in South Africa and China, I wish to draw attention to certain parts of our old Empire which I think, in the present excitement, have every chance of being overlooked and neglected. The hon. Member for Derby said the democracy were animated by high ideals of justice, but it seems to me that with regard to the West Indies and also with regard to the sugar refining industry at home, the democracy of this country have not been sufficiently educated by Her Majesty's Government. A year ago the Brussels Conference was called together by Her Majesty's Government with a view that their deliberations would relieve the Government of the necessity of having to take any other steps to procure justice towards our colonies, but nothing has been done to carry the propositions made to any definite result. So far back as May, 1898, Lord Salisbury affirmed:

"That the bounties on sugar were prejudicial to the general interests of the British Empire."

But what has his Lordship done since then to do away with those bounties? Only a few months previously the Report of the Royal Commission affirmed:

"That the rehabilitation of the sugar industry is the only remedy that would completely avert the dangers which now threaten your Majesty's West Indian possessions."

And yet, after the strong statements on the part of very impartial witnesses with regard to the bounty system and the refining industry at home, Her Majesty's Government have not taken those firm and decided steps which they know in their hearts they should have taken, and which would have been immediately effective. It is quite true that the Secretary of State for the Colonies has done all he could with that energy of which he is the master to reduce this evil by providing palliating remedies which may possibly do a considerable amount of good for the time being, but which are quite inadequate, as the right hon. Gentleman knows full well, to bring about the absolute recuperation of those ancient colonies of the Crown. The only way to do this is to put them in the position which they formerly occupied. Last year our policy was that of paying off debts, and this year we have a policy of granting loans. As everybody knows, when you desire to assist a poor relation it is not merely enough to pay his debts and lend him money, but you want to put him in a position in which he will be able to maintain himself in the future, and not be continually falling back upon you. It seems to me that this policy which the Government have adopted contains an inherent weakness, for there can be no finality about paying debts or lending money, and if the British democracy is animated by those high ideals of justice, they ought not to neglect their duty to their fellow-subjects beyond the seas, and they should see that they have a free entrance to our market here at home. As long as Her Majesty's Government neglect to take the only steps which can be effective to bring about this result, so long will they fail in their duty towards their fellow-subjects in the West Indies and other colonies. For the last few days we have been considering the question of loans to the West Indies, and some hon. Members think they are doing something very handsome when they recommend that the funds of this country should be voted for the development of our colonies. This country is now receiving, through the surtax on rum, £250,000 a year from these colonies, and, according to the Royal Commission, this is an undue tax upon the industries of the West Indies, and, consequently, it is just that Her Majesty's Government now

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propose to lend money to these islands. With regard to the continuance of the rum tax, this is another instance of the great injustice which the British democracy is inflicting upon the people of the West Indies. The House may or may not know that this rum tax of 4d. per gallon is put upon the rum made in the West Indies distinctly as a countervailing duty to protect British spirits subject to excise here. I am glad to see that the Secretary of State for the Colonies has agreed that there should be a Return issued showing what the local excise regulations are. When this Report is printed I think it will be seen that these colonies have themselves local excise regulations on the manufacture of rum which are quite as bad and as heavy as those imposed in this country on the manufacture of British spirits. From all the information I can get, it seems to me that the British spirit distillers are perfectly alive to all these facts, and do not object to the abolition of the surtax on rum. This matter also is under the direct control of Downing Street. The House will, therefore, see that the whole system of excise in these colonies is entirely under the control of this House inasmuch as it is regulated by the right hon. Gentleman who sits below me. It seems to me that this is one of those crying injustices which are so seldom brought before this House. I appeal to the right hon. Gentlemen who form Her Majesty's Government that they should during the next six or seven months do more than they have done in the past in order to bring about the abolition of these bounties, which press so hardly on the industry of these ancient colonies. I noticed in this morning's *Times* an interesting article written by a gentleman who knows well what he is writing about, and he says that it is quite certain that all these various schemes of which we have heard to rehabilitate the West India Islands will avail us little unless these sugar bounties are abolished and proper markets established. The Secretary for State for the Colonies has brought about within the last few days some reciprocity treaties, but I should prefer a closer union between the mother country and our colonies rather than reciprocity between the West India Islands and the United States. This latter policy is by no means wholly beneficial to the mother country. It is said that the Islands will gain very considerably by this treaty with the United States, but these Islands possess very important harbours on the route to Panama; and it is, to my thinking, very prejudicial to the interests of the mother country that their sympathies should be alienated from us and handed over to a foreign Power, although that Power may happen to speak the same language as we do. When it is remembered that owing to those bounties the lack of credit to these Islands prevents the development of enormously rich areas, I think that is a reason why, without further delay, Her Majesty's Government should take some steps in the matter, and if they are afraid of the electorate in this country let them go and point out to them how absolutely necessary it is that these bounties should be abolished. If only the present price of sugar is maintained I believe the sugar planter in the West Indies would be content, and, at the same time, by abolishing these bounties, you will rehabilitate the sugar-refining industry of the mother country, and in doing so you will do much to benefit a large mass of the working population of this country.

*MR. WYLIE (Dumbartonshire): I wish to draw the attention of the Leader of the House to the present position of the Sugar Bounty question. I supported the Indian Tariff Act not only in the interests of India but also in the interests of Free Trade throughout the world. I was very much surprised at the opposition of my right hon. friend the Member for Wolverhampton, because I believe that it is a continuation of his own policy. In 1893 the Government in which the right hon. Gentleman acted as Secretary of State for India, with much benefit to that country, closed the Mints against the free coinage of silver——

*MR. SPEAKER: Order, order! The hon. Member's observations will be more in order to-morrow, when the Indian Budget is discussed, than to-day.

*MR. WYLIE: I bow to your ruling. As to the general aspect of this question, notwithstanding the influence of State subsidies the sugar grown in tropical countries can still be produced cheaper than in European countries. Cane sugar can now be produced at a cost considerably under £9 per ton, whilst in the case of beet sugar the cost

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is over £10 a ton. The opponents of the bounty system thought that the present would be a very opportune time at which to renew the meetings of the international conference which was adjourned in June last year, and for that purpose they requested an interview with the Prime Minister. For domestic reasons which we all regret, and I am sure the whole House sympathises with the Prime Minister upon this matter, Lord Salisbury was unable to give the deputation the interview which he had intended. I now desire to draw the attention of the Leader of the House and the Secretary of State for the Colonies to the position of this question. They have behind them the very large Vote which the House gave upon this question in connection with the Indian Tariff Act, and I think they should take steps for having a meeting of the International Conference on the sugar question at a very early date. Hitherto at these International Conferences we have appeared as a peace-at-any-price party, and with as little chance of making our influence felt as we should have had in the Valley of the Nile if we had not had force behind our diplomacy. It is generally believed that if our delegates had been able to state definitely that India would impose countervailing duties, we should have carried our point, and it is almost certain that if this country had stated our intention of taking up the much more powerful weapon lying ready to our hand, the whole system of bounty fed attack on our sugar industries would have disappeared. But at that conference we had only a sword of lath, in the shape of indefinite hints, as to what might be done; but India has now grasped a weapon of steel, wherewith she has rendered herself invulnerable to the attacks of our bounty-fed rivals and made it quite sure that she will now retain within the domain of the British Empire a very large and important industry; and we who are at the centre of the Empire, and hold the reins which guide its colonies, and to whom they have a right to look for light and leading and support, should not hesitate to give the decision which we have arrived at in connection with India a wide-world significance. In doing this we should be holding out our right hand of support to those who have suffered so much and borne up so bravely in the struggle against this most unjust and injurious system of Protection.

*THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS (Mr. BRODRICK, Surrey, Guildford): As so many questions have been raised, it would be perhaps convenient that I should rise at this moment, in order to reply to a few of the questions which have been put to me. First of all, I will allude to the subject which was introduced by my hon. friend the Member for the Abercromby Division of Liverpool, and the hon. Member for Dumbartonshire, with regard to the sugar bounties. I think both my hon. friends who have spoken have complained that the question in which they are interested has made comparatively little progress since the Brussels Conference, and my hon. friend the Member for the Abercromby Division was inclined to attribute some supineness to the Government for not having taken more definite steps. It is impossible for me to-night to make any statement in the direction which both these hon. Members desire; but at the same time I think it would be wrong to suppose that although negotiations, as I said this afternoon, are not now proceeding, although the Belgian Government, to whom the negotiations were entrusted through diplomatic channels, have not hitherto been able to report any success in their negotiations with the French Government, at the same time I think it would be wrong to suppose that the question has altogether stood still. In the first place, I think the mere fact that the conference showed an undoubted general feeling, on the part of the nations concerned, that the time had come when bounties should be done away with, was a great step in advance, and I might go further and say that, with regard to the French Government, there are not wanting indications that the events of the last six months have not been thrown away upon them. It is quite possible, having regard to the feeling pervading other nations, and the possible extension of the system of countervailing duties already adopted by the United States, that the French Government may modify its views in the same direction. My hon. friend the Member for Dumbartonshire, when he alluded to the events of last October, did not, of course, mean to suggest that other force should be brought to bear upon a commercial operation like this. I assure my hon. friends

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that there has been no want of earnest attention on the part of Her Majesty's Government. A variety of questions have been raised in regard to China, and the right hon. Baronet has brought forward the question of our present position in regard to certain concessions, remarking that, although by a recent agreement with Russia Manchuria is left a Russian sphere of concessions, and the Yang-tsze remains our sphere, there is a large and important strip of territory between as to which no agreement has been come to. Looking at it simply as a question of concessions, and leaving the political side over for a few moments, I do not think there is any reason to complain of concessions in that sphere. A general agreement in regard to that sphere would be extremely difficult, for undoubtedly the Pekin Government will desire to control concessions in the country immediately adjoining the capital. So far as Her Majesty's Government are aware, negotiations are proceeding satisfactorily with the powerful syndicate, which has been much encouraged by surveys made, and has decided to extend its operations along the line of the Yang-tsze, and Her Majesty's Government will be glad if they are able to persuade the Chinese Government to facilitate their operations. Our difficulty in making a report upon the other concessions which have been given up to this time is that the concessionaires have hardly got to work yet. A great deal has been promised on paper, but at present the actual results are comparatively inconsiderable; but I would say, there is no reason whatever why we should regard concessions which happen to be given to some other Powers, in provinces with which we are not particularly concerned, with mistrust. I was asked just now what was our attitude with regard to the reform party in China. A reform of the administration in China will probably commend itself to every man in this country. One thing is quite certain, however, and that is that we cannot expect to remove in a few weeks the encrusted traditions of centuries, with regard to official action in China. I think we are lucky if we find other nations, in provinces with which we are not immediately connected, will bear their share in opening up China, which is not likely to be a work of great ease or one unaccompanied by danger to those who undertake it. A much more important point which has been raised is that of our possible co-operation with Germany in regard to provinces which are not in the special sphere of any Power. The whole question of alliances, as regards China, is one which is always cropping up, and on which those who advocate alliances take different views. My noble friend wished an alliance of four Powers, and he has made eloquent speeches ——

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD: May I interrupt? I never said anything of the sort. I never wished for an alliance between four Powers, but for an understanding on the same basis as the Maritime Customs are carried out now.

*MR. BRODRICK: I am bound to say that the general impression caused by my noble friend's representation for several months, until he visited America, was that he was strongly in favour of an alliance of four Powers to keep the open door, and to preserve the integrity of China. My noble friend complained that I have said that his speeches are always made after dinner. That is the last thing I should venture to suggest. What I said was that my noble friend's speeches were as genial before dinner as I should expect them to be after dinner, which I think was hardly an impeachment on any man. The right hon. Baronet opposite prefers an alliance with Germany.

*SIR CHARLES DILKE: I have never used such a word as "alliance" at all, and I do not think it represents the policy that I have suggested.

*MR. BRODRICK: Everybody is now anxious to discard the word alliance, and I agree. I think that very often, with regard to alliances, we may say what the Greeks said of women, that the best are those that are the least talked about. My hon. friend, the Member for the Ecclesall Division, did speak of an alliance with Japan. In all these questions I think we may say, as regards Germany, that we may look forward in many parts of the world, in more than one part anyhow, to good results from the friendly co-operation with Germany. I do not see what is the divergent interest between Germany and

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ourselves in these matters. No doubt we are both great manufacturing nations, and we are rivals in that respect, but on the other hand we are, or ought to be, partners in the desire to open up and keep open all parts of the globe to our manufacturers. We have a great identity of interests. The point which must divide us with regard to China is that we ourselves have a comparative immunity in any co-operation we may agree upon, because we have no land frontier on which our enemies can co-operate, whereas in the case of any Continental Power, which enters into agreements and arrangements of this character in China, it has to consider that even if it is not intended as a menace to any particular Power it might be taken so. In the case of a Power 99 out of 100 of whose interests lie in Europe, it is almost impossible for that Power to say that for the hundredth interest, which lies in Asia, it will engage in hostilities in any eventuality; therefore I think while we may appear very often to be proceeding alone in these matters we are often voicing the opinion of more Powers than appear on the surface. In that respect, I should like to say one word with regard to the slight censure which the right hon. Gentleman pronounced on the Government, both for the advice which we have tendered to the Chinese Government in respect to the possibility of a railway to Pekin from Manchuria, and also, as he put it, to the way in which it was announced in this House. All that we have said is this: we cannot look without concern upon the predominance of any Power at Pekin, and I think it is not impossible that the right hon. Gentleman will find that other Powers who may not speak in the same tongue, will not be backward in showing that they share our opinion should the occasion arise. There is no doubt that the present position of the Chinese Government is a most phenomenal one. They are protected not merely by the vast bulk of the Empire, some of which are not altogether under their control, but also by tradition, which forbids them hastily taking up many measures of reform, which would probably save the Government very much difficulty. They are also none the less in the position that they are too weak to resist the assault of any great European Power; or, as has been proved, still more of Japan. Under those circumstances, the position of the Chinese Government must remain a matter of doubt and uncertainty, and in some respect of peril, but I would venture, on one of the last days of the session, to call attention to the immensely improved tone and confidence which prevailed both in regard to the position of the Government in China and to the operations of the Government which has been shown by the discussions in this House during the present session. When we parted last year the air was full of alarms and rumours, and there was a general impression that England had lost all along the line either through supineness or want of nerve. I do not think there is any evidence of that feeling in the speeches which have been delivered this evening. I think it has been realised that if progress has been slow it has been sure, and that we have not fallen behind, certainly in the commercial race, and I hope also in the political race, in China. There is no doubt my noble friend thinks that we have not taken sufficiently strong steps to observe the open door, and that our agreement with Russia is useless. I would remind my noble friend that we still, as we ever did, take our stand as regards the open door on the provisions of the Treaty of Tientsin, to which the Chinese Government was a party, and my noble friend cannot point out any case in which up to the present the provisions of that treaty have been disregarded as against us. The open door remains open, and although it is clear to any of those who have watched the course of events that we cannot undertake to protect British commerce if it is pushed into the uttermost provinces of China, to some of which the power of the Chinese Government itself hardly extends, yet we have not allowed any operations to take place which would prejudice the entry of our trade. On the other hand, we have made it clear that if new interests are to be created it is desirable they should be in the Yang-tsze Valley, where our gunboats offer protection as far as it is possible for an external Government to proceed. Under these circumstances I hope the House will recognise that the Government are fully alive to the responsibilities which lie upon them. I know perfectly well that it would be infinitely more agreeable to the country and more effective on the platform, to make vigorous statements of our claims, based on our long commercial predominance. But the

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position taken up by the Government is far safer and surer. Our policy in China at this moment is one of patience and watchfulness. Patience, which is absolutely necessary in dealing with a country which has so many centuries of lethargy to make up for; and watchfulness, which has already produced good results. I hope that the tone which has characterised this discussion will continue, and that the House will give to the Government in this matter that confidence which it deserves.

*MR. BROADHURST (Leicester): I desire to make one last appeal to the Government to suspend, if they can, the proceedings with regard to the prosecution of the Leicester Guardians. There are no more enlightened citizens in the country than the Poor Law Guardians of Leicester. They desire to carry out all reasonable and practicable law, but they object to the appointment of a vaccination officer, on the ground that it will be a useless expense to the ratepayers of the borough, and that it would be entirely unnecessary, and therefore a waste and an extravagant appointment. I have here the last report of the medical officer of the borough—a man of great eminence in his profession. He says, under the heading of "Small-pox":

"No cases of this complaint were notified; two suspicious cases were brought to my notice by a medical man in the borough, but the patients were eventually proved to be suffering from other diseases. There are several complaints which have a rash resembling small-pox, but one of the two mentioned above proved to be suffering from rheumatism."

There was not a single case of small-pox in the borough during 1898, and I therefore think there is good cause why the Guardians of Leicester should not appoint a public official when there is no work for him to do. Forty-five out of the forty-eight guardians have been specially appointed for the purpose of opposing and combating vaccination. They do not prevent people being vaccinated who desire it, but they oppose as far as they can compulsory vaccination in the case of those who do not wish to be vaccinated. For this step the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Local Government Board has prosecuted these guardians, and if he carries his policy to the bitter end he will have forty-five guardians to accommodate in prison, six of them being ladies; and if another election should follow, forty-five other guardians will go to prison also, and before the matter is finished practically the whole of the population of Leicester will have to be accommodated in Her Majesty's prisons. I wish to ask the right hon. Gentleman whether he has seen a report of a case at Derby, in which a legal decision was given that under the Act of last year compulsion was illegal, and that the vaccination officer might not vaccinate except by the consent and order of the guardian. This is a very important decision, and if it is good law, as I have no doubt it is, the proceedings initiated against the Guardians of Leicester are altogether wrong, and the steps which have been taken will have to be retraced. I would ask the right hon. Gentleman whether the proceedings against the Leicester Guardians should not be stayed until a final decision is given in the Derby case. I think that is a reasonable request, and I hope the right hon. Gentleman will be able to answer it in the affirmative. If he persists in this he will have a tremendous task before him, because the whole of the borough will prefer to go to prison rather than submit to compulsory vaccination. The First Lord of the Treasury made a speech on the 30th of July last year, which showed that he foresaw the exact position which now obtains in Leicester, and he warned the House against adopting any legislation that would have the effect of putting the whole community at variance with the law. It would be impossible to put the case of the Leicester Guardians in more excellent language, and I am indebted to the right hon. Gentleman for it. You cannot imprison a whole community, and you cannot coerce local authority. I hope the right hon. Gentleman will now adopt the policy enunciated last July, and that he will rescue his Party from its present impossible position, and which will prevent large public demonstrations which may lead to

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lawlessness. I make this appeal in the hope, and I might also say the assurance, that where common-sense ruled so supreme twelve months ago it will assert itself now, and stay the proceedings which have been brought against the Leicester Guardians.

MR. HAZELL (Leicester): I desire to associate myself with what my hon. friend has just said with reference to the gravity of the situation in Leicester. Among the forty-five ladies and gentlemen to whom my hon. friend has referred, there is one guardian who is eighty years of age, and who is determined to go to prison with his colleagues. I think it is possible that the House does not fully understand how deeply rooted feeling on this matter is in Leicester. Leicester practically suspended the compulsory clauses of the Vaccination Act half a generation ago, and therefore found no relief from the measure of last year. Whether it is wise or unwise, there is no doubt of the earnestness and intensity of feeling of the people on this subject. They do not feel it a matter of joke. They are not anxious to go to prison, but they would do so if they believed it to be their duty. They are the stuff of which martyrs are made. I am not here to defend the guardians, but I warn the President of the Local Government Board that if he persists in his present course he will bring disaster to the cause he has at heart—namely, the extension of vaccination. He told us on Friday that the increase of vaccination for the six months of this year over the corresponding six months of 1898 was 27 per cent. That was not done by coercing guardians and sending them to prison; it was done by the free operation of the Act under which the doctor goes to the parents' houses and uses his legitimate influence to induce them to have their children vaccinated. While the right hon. Gentleman is thus coercing the guardians, he is arousing all over the country a sense of antagonism among the people, and there can be no doubt that that antagonism will beat him, however long he perseveres. The guardians have had hundreds of letters of sympathy. The question is further complicated at the present moment by a vaccination officer being appointed, whom the guardians will have to pay, but over whom they will have no control. This is not only a vaccination question, it is a question of local self-government. We Londoners, who know so little of self-government, can hardly appreciate the intense earnestness and zeal for local government which these men of Leicester have. I believe sincerely that if the right hon. Gentleman pursues his present course there is the very gravest danger of the public peace being broken. I know that the people of Leicester are a very law-abiding people, but no power which the right hon. Gentleman can use in Leicester, not one regiment of soldiers, or two, or more, will force the people against their conscientious convictions to have their children vaccinated. While the right hon. Gentleman is pursuing this course and rousing antagonism all over the country, he is seriously setting back the development of the system of vaccination.

MR. J. G. TALBOT (Oxford University) said he would like to ask the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Local Government Board whether he intended to enforce the law as laid down by the Poor Law Amendment Act on the Guardians of South Shields Union. What happened there was this: a Nonconformist service was held, to which all the children in the union were taken. That service was held, as the guardians themselves say, by the Sunday School Union. There was singing of what were known as Sankey's hymns, the reading of a Bible lesson, and a short address, generally on the subject of temperance. He had not the slightest objection to their giving any form of service they pleased which was not a contravention of the regulations of the guardians. But if these services were conducted by a Nonconformist body which professedly represented the Nonconformists of the town, the strong probability was that they would have a very strong Nonconformist flavour. What he maintained was that it was an infraction of religious liberty and of the spirit of the law that the children of Church of England parents, or the children who were visited by a clergyman of the Church of England, should be compelled to attend these services. The vicar who acted as chaplain at South Shields wrote a letter, in which he said, speaking of the clerk to the guardians:

"He admits that the Church of England children are not placed on the same footing as the

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Roman Catholic children, nor are they placed on an equal footing with the Nonconformist children, for the latter are studiously withdrawn from all Church services."

The Church of England was supposed to be the only body which had no conscience and no rights. The vicar went on to say:

"The service in question is described by the guardians as quite of a colourless nature. I am quite willing to admit that that is the intention of those who conduct it, but I am equally sure that it is impossible to maintain any regular service colourless, where particular people conduct it from time to time."

Even if it were possible to secure absolute undenominational teaching, that could not be regarded as acceptable to Churchmen. He asked for a very moderate amount of justice, and he hoped his right hon. friend would not give a *non possumus* answer to his petition. He trusted that this matter would receive the attention of the Local Government Board during the recess, and that if necessary the President would take the opinion of the Law Officers of the Crown as to whether this case did not come within the provisions of the Act.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD (MR. CHAPLIN, Lincolnshire, Sleaford): In reply to the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Oxford University, I am sure he will remember that in an earlier part of the session I gave him an undertaking, when he talked of the Church of England having no conscience and no rights, that I would make it my business to see that the Church of England should not be unfairly treated, and so far as I am aware I have acted up to that statement. My right hon. friend says that the Church of England has no conscience and no rights, but that is a somewhat exaggerated statement when we consider that out of 640 unions 500 employ clergy of the Church of England at the present moment. In regard to this particular case, I stated in answer to a question this afternoon that, so far as we were aware, the services to which my right hon. friend referred were not religious services in which the doctrines of any particular creed were advocated. I am told that there is no question of the children being obliged to attend these services, and that the children like to attend them, but I shall be perfectly ready to make further inquiry if it be necessary. So far as I know, the services consist of singing Sankey's hymns, the reading of a chapter of the Bible, and an address on temperance. If that is all there is to complain of, I frankly admit I do not see that I am called upon to interfere with a practice which has gone on for thirty-five years and of which complaint is now made for the first time. However, I will examine further into the matter and ascertain if there is anything in the services which reflects on the treatment meted out to the children of the Church of England. If there are any grounds for interference in the direction desired by my right hon. friend, I shall know how to act. With regard to the speech of the hon. Member for Leicester, I confess that, having listened very carefully to it, I am at some loss as to what was his real object, but at the close I rather gathered that he intended to appeal to me to stay all further proceedings in connection with the Guardians of Leicester. Yes, but those proceedings have passed out of my hands. I understand the Board of Guardians of Leicester have not yet agreed to obey the order of the High Court. That is a matter with which I have nothing to do. It is a matter now between the High Court and the Board of Guardians of Leicester.

HON. MEMBERS: No!

MR. CHAPLIN: That is a matter between the High Court and the Board of Guardians. The hon. Member's speech does not add much to my knowledge of the subject. I was glad to hear that the hon Member's colleague did not support the guardians, and that he did not approve of the action of the guardians in this instance.

MR. HAZELL: I do not profess to be an anti-vaccinationist, but what I urged upon the right hon. Gentleman was the danger of the course he is pursuing at present.

MR. CHAPLIN: At all events, the hon. Gentleman said he did not pose as a supporter of the guardians in these proceedings, and I was very glad of it, and for this reason. What is the position which the guardians have taken up in regard to this question? This is not a

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question of compulsory vaccination, because that question, we know, was decided last session. There is no compulsion at this moment in Leicester in regard to vaccination with any person who chooses to comply with the law. The real question at issue is this—that the Guardians of Leicester, by their refusal to appoint the necessary officers, are doing their best to prevent facilities being given to those people who desire vaccination. The hon. Gentleman says the Board of Guardians have had a great many letters of sympathy. Well, I have had a great many letters, too, from people in Leicester, entreating me to adhere to my position and give them the advantages enjoyed in every other town in England. Leicester is the only town which has refused to comply with the law and appoint the necessary officer. The hon. Member who began this Debate said there was no necessity whatever to appoint the medical officer, as there had been only two cases of small-pox in Leicester.

*MR. BROADHURST: What I said was that in the last report of the medical officer there was not mentioned a single case of small-pox in 1898.

MR. CHAPLIN: But that is not a reason why there should not be small-pox in Leicester. The danger is that at any moment there may be an outbreak of small-pox where so many are unvaccinated. In all probability if there was an outbreak it would equal in its disastrous character that which took place in Gloucester. Then, in regard to Leicester itself, he says that nobody desires vaccination.

*MR. BROADHURST: I did not say so.

MR. CHAPLIN: The hon. Member, or the hon. Member near him, said so. In the first six months of 1898 the vaccinations in Leicestershire, in which the town is included, were 234, but in the first six months of 1899 the vaccinations were 1,977, although it is supposed to be against vaccination. Moreover, the Board of Guardians have not thought it necessary to appeal against the decision of the High Court of Queen's Bench. The hon. Member said that the English people are difficult to drive, but such a remark is out of date altogether. No one is attempting to drive them now. The plain fact is that the Leicester Guardians have deliberately set themselves in defiance of the law, and in doing this they are doing all that rests within their power, not simply to free people from vaccination who are opposed to it, but to impede and prevent the thousands of people who desire vaccination from availing themselves of it.

*ADMIRAL FIELD (Eastbourne): We have had a very interesting discussion on vaccination, and on foreign and colonial policy. It must be satisfactory to the Government to feel, when the House adjourns, that their hands have been strengthened by this Debate, and that the position of the country has been greatly strengthened as a first-class sea Power. I wish to apologise for interposing on the Appropriation Bill. Nothing but a burning sense of duty would have led me to trespass now on the indulgence of the House. I tried to raise the question I am now about to touch upon in Committee of Supply on the Naval Estimates, but I was ruled out of order by the intervention of an hon. Member on this side of the House. We have had, as all the world knows, a disastrous explosion at Toulon, in France, of a powder magazine. That is a matter of momentous importance, although the country knows very little about it. No information has been published in the Press. I ventured to put a question to the Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs in order that I might get some information through our Ambassador in Paris, but the answer I received was that the information was confidential. On July 7th I put a question in regard to the policy of magazine extension, because the Government have taken a Vote in the Naval Works Bill of nearly half a million for that purpose. I feel most strongly that rash action is being taken in regard to this magazine extension. I have had communications on the subject from the Mayor of Portsmouth, and the local authorities on the other side of the harbour. Some foolish people think that I am taking this action because I live in the locality. People who talk this nonsense do not know me. My life is of no value to anyone. I care not whether my life is lost in an explosion,

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but I care a very great deal as to whether Portsmouth Dockyard is to be jeopardised. If there was a repetition at Portsmouth of the Toulon explosion it would mean that the Empire would be jeopardised, the total destruction of the Dockyard, and of all the buildings and barracks in the harbour, to say nothing of the dreadful loss of life among the soldiers, marines, and inhabitants generally. As a naval officer, I admit that our first duty is to care for the efficiency of the Fleet, and in order to maintain that efficiency we must have supplies of cordite ammunition at hand. In the old war period the heaviest charge known was 16 lbs. of powder, but now there is a charge of 167½ lbs. of cordite on board battleships, and cordite is nearly six times as destructive as the old gunpowder. I admit that the conditions of the problem are altered, and the necessity for increasing our magazine accommodation is urgent. But what I do object to is that the Admiralty is extending the magazine accommodation at Priddy's Hard. Now, that ought to be only a receiving magazine, and ought not to be converted into a great store-house, from which a whole mobilised fleet could be supplied. No hasty decision ought to be come to in regard to this matter, but it should be inquired into by a strong committee—not a committee of two naval officers and two colonels of Royal Engineers; that is not strong enough for me. When a question was put to the right hon. Gentleman the First Lord of the Admiralty upon the subject he did not answer it, but asked the House to have confidence in the Administration of the Navy. Everybody had most unbounded confidence in the Administration of the Navy, but that is not the question. The youngest Member of the House is as competent to judge whether a magazine should be extended in such a manner. I quite admit that the Admiralty ought to have supplies near at hand, but in my opinion they should not be stored at the place proposed. There is a harbour running six miles up, with land on either side, from which sites might be selected; yet the Government prefer to store all their cordite in this small magazine, which they are going to extend. From rough calculations I have made I have arrived at the conclusion that for mobilisation purposes some 1,000 tons of cordite are required, and in my opinion the store-house required for such a quantity should be built five miles up the creek. Neither the Commander-in-Chief nor the Admiral of the Dockyard is in favour of the new policy of the Government; on the contrary, both are opposed to it, and outside the Admiralty there is not a single officer in the country who approves of it. The effect of the explosion of the magazine at Toulon was felt thirteen miles away, and hundreds of houses were levelled to the dust, and we in this country do not want a repetition of such a disaster. No doubt the House will be told that cordite is perfectly stable, but that is no justification for its being stored near the dockyard. I feel that I am justified in urging this question upon the Government. The Admiralty is perhaps the best administered Department of the Government, but on this matter they have gone mad. It is a question which ought to be referred to a large Committee of ten or twelve Members, and not to a Committee, contemptible in point of numbers, of four. I feel certain in that case the verdict would be against the policy of the Government, but at any rate I have delivered my soul, and though I may be called an antiquated officer, an ancient fossil, or a piece of old seaweed flung up upon the beach, I may remind the House that there are also antiquated politicians, and though I may be an ancient fossil, there is some kick left in me yet. I hope that the Government will reconsider their policy and reverse it.

THE CIVIL LORD OF THE ADMIRALTY (Mr. AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN, Worcestershire, E.) said the House could not spare his hon. and gallant friend so long as he criticised the conduct of the Admiralty with so much vigour and humour. Although his hon. and gallant friend was alarmed on account of what the Admiralty was doing at Portsmouth, he thought he could show that they did not merit such strong condemnation. It was, of course, absolutely impossible that he should describe to the House in detail the magazines, or the exact amount of cordite or powder which was to be stored in them. If his hon. and gallant friend really reposed any confidence in the Board of Admiralty, he thought he might

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well do so in connection with delicate matters of this kind. It was perfectly true that if they did the wrong thing and a disaster ensued the dockyard and the Navy, for which they were responsible, would be the first to suffer. But was it conceivable that they would do anything which they thought would cause grave risk to the Navy? This was the second time his hon. and gallant friend had tried to extract this information, but the Board of Admiralty in a matter of this kind must take the whole responsibility, and they were absolutely unable to lay before the House documents which of necessity must be of a confidential nature. The main object of the arrangements which were now being carried out at Portsmouth was to abolish the floating hulks which had existed for many years, and which he did not hesitate to say were a source of great danger; for them would be substituted much safer and properly constructed magazine accommodation ashore. The result of the changes they were making at Portsmouth would be to make the dockyard and town very much safer than they had been hitherto. These magazines were constructed in the light of the latest discoveries of science and on the most approved principles; every precaution for security, both in their construction and in the arrangements for the storage of explosives, was being taken. Everything had been done which could be done to prevent accidents. His hon. and gallant friend based his attack on the fact that a certain amount of cordite was to be stored in the neighbourhood of a great naval port like Portsmouth. But they must have an arsenal there, and in that arsenal they must have such stores as were needed for the immediate mobilisation of our ships. Cordite was not considered by the Committee which sat many years ago, and of which his hon. and gallant friend was a member, and therefore his hon. and gallant friend had no confidence in cordite, or in the arrangements that were made for its storage.

ADMIRAL FIELD said he had perfect confidence in the arrangements that it was proposed to make; his point was that the storage was in the wrong place, and that it ought to be five miles off.

MR. AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN said his hon. and gallant friend thought there was great risk of an explosion from this cordite; but, as a matter of fact, cordite for all purposes of storage was very much safer than was the old black powder. They had considered the matter most carefully, and taken expert opinion on the subject. His hon. and gallant friend thought a committee of two Naval officers and two Royal Engineers was a contemptible committee——

ADMIRAL FIELD: Only as to numbers—not contemptible so far as the members are concerned.

MR. AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN denied that, and maintained that it was a most competent committee. His hon. and gallant friend apparently desired a committee composed mainly of people who knew nothing about the matter, and who had no experience of cordite and its management. He thought there was no reason whatever to anticipate any danger. He would like to say that the Mayor of Portsmouth had written to the First Lord of the Admiralty to ask for information on this subject, in order to allay the excitement and fears which had been created—he believed mainly by his hon. and gallant friend's question in that House—and his right hon. friend the First Lord had sent a reply which the Mayor had said would enable him to remove the apprehensions which prevailed. He hoped his hon. and gallant friend would not be more difficult to satisfy in this matter than was the Mayor of Portsmouth, and that the same answer would relieve his apprehensions.

*MR. PICKERSGILL (Bethnal Green, S.W.): The President of the Local Government Board said that the case with regard to the Leicester Guardians had now passed out of his hands. The right hon. Gentleman spoke as if the Queen's Bench were a kind of automatic machine. It is not an automatic machine, and if the Leicester Guardians are committed to prison, they can only be so committed upon a motion made to the Court. That motion will be made at the instance of the right hon. Gentleman. Therefore, if the Leicester Guardians are committed, I hope the people of Leicester, and all whom it may concern, will very clearly understand that the responsibility lies at the door of the right hon. Gentleman. I am

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very much surprised, after the brave words he has used, he seems to shrink from that responsibility. The right hon. Gentleman also said that the action of the Leicester Guardians impeded people who desired to have their children vaccinated. I cannot for the life of me understand what he meant by that statement. He seems to be confusing the functions of a vaccination officer with those of a medical officer. As a matter of fact, all the Leicester Guardians, at the worst, have done, is to decline to appoint a vaccination officer; but it is perfectly open to the people of Leicester to be vaccinated. Therefore it is a little unfair of the right hon. Gentleman to say that the action of the Leicester Guardians is in any way inimical or unfavourable to those people in Leicester who desire to have their children vaccinated. The right hon. Gentleman also referred to a recent decision of a petty sessions at Derby, and taunted the Member for Leicester with a desire to set up the authority of the Derby magistrates against that of the Queen's Bench. Nothing of the kind. The point raised by the Derby magistrates is quite distinct from the point which the Queen's Bench settled the other day. The point raised by the former is whether or not a vaccination officer can take out a summons to prosecute a parent for neglect without the authority of the Guardians. The Derby magistrates dismissed the summons because that authority had not been given, and if the right hon. Gentleman feels so sure of his ground, I am surprised he has not asked for a case to be stated, so that the decision of the Queen's Bench may be obtained. But I did not rise mainly to deal with the vaccination question, but to call attention to an important matter affecting London. The First Lord of the Treasury announced the other day that it was the intention of the Government to confer upon the new borough of Westminster the title of "City," and he added that that title was originally conferred by Henry VIII. I should strongly demur to the accuracy of that statement. I have grave doubts whether, as a matter of fact, Henry VIII. did confer that title upon anybody or anything, because I have taken the trouble to go through the Record Office, and I can find no trace of these alleged Letters Patent, and I am beginning to think that the whole story, at all events so far as Henry VIII. goes, is either a fiction or a forgery. But if he did confer the title, he certainly did not confer it upon the area of the new borough of Westminster. The so-called City of Westminster has never had a municipal organisation, it has not a rag of municipal tradition, and if there ever was a City of Westminster in the time of Henry VIII., the bounds of its jurisdiction did not exceed the precincts of the Abbey. Therefore, I say that the alleged historical basis for this grant is absolutely gone. But I desire to call attention to what has been said by Ministers, and to what has been determined by this House with reference to this very question. It will be remembered that, whilst the London Government Bill was passing through this House, considerable dissatisfaction was expressed with the position assigned to the new borough of Westminster, and fears were expressed that there was an intention on the part of the Government to confer a special dignity and distinction upon Westminster which the other boroughs would not enjoy. No less a considerable person than the Leader of the Opposition gave expression to those fears, but the First Lord interposed, and said: "I must have expressed myself badly. There is no such intention; they are all on an absolute equality." Nothing could have been more definite than that statement, and having been made by so high an authority, implicit confidence was placed in it. I regard that as a pledge, and I am much surprised, after that pledge, at the action which Her Majesty's Government now propose to take. But the matter does not rest there. The matter came expressly before the Committee of this House. The question was raised by the hon. Member for Westminster, who moved, That the newly constituted area of Westminster should be called "the City of Westminster." How was that met by the Leader of the House? He resented the motion, and in doing so used language quite as strong as anything I should desire to say with reference to this matter. On the 16th May he said:

"My hon. friend asks me to single out the borough of Westminster and give it a distinctive name, different from that given to all the other borough councils which this Bill proposes to establish. It appears to me that that is asking me to take a course which would be greatly resented by the other boroughs."

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Yet now the right hon. Gentleman informs us that he and his colleagues mean to use the Royal prerogative to do the very thing against which the right hon. Gentleman himself protested in the language I have given to the House. That it may be done by the Royal prerogative, in spite of this House, I, as a constitutional lawyer, do not for a moment deny; but I am sorry the right hon. Gentleman is not present, because I desire to put it to him whether it is wise to bring the Royal prerogative into direct conflict with the deliberate determination of this House. I forgot to say that the hon. Member for Westminster persisted in his motion, and the House rejected it. Is it chivalrous to use the name of the Crown to do this most invidious act, which the right hon. Gentleman himself has said will justly arouse the great resentment of the other metropolitan boroughs — an act which Her Majesty's Ministers did not dare to ask this House to do? I am sorry the right hon. Gentleman is not in the House, because undoubtedly I do charge him with having broken a pledge which he gave to the House, and I should have been glad, therefore, to have made the charge in his presence; but the fault is not mine, because he had distinct notice that I intended to raise the question.

THE SOLICITOR-GENERAL (Sir R. B. FINLAY, Inverness Burghs): I confess I listened with very great surprise to the attack which has been made upon the Leader of the House. My hon. friend says there is something in the nature of a breach of a pledge. I venture to think that no one in the House who listened to the hon. Member when he read those extracts could see the slightest foundation for the charge. Every word that he read from the speeches of my right hon. friend related to the framework of the Bill, and in the passage quoted the Leader of the House was dealing with the question whether or not it was right and proper that in the Bill there should be a provision introduced creating the Borough of Westminster a city. The very reading of those passages is enough to demonstrate that; and if the hon. Member thinks the passages are inconsistent with what is proposed to be done, he is probably the only person in the House who entertains that idea. The hon. Gentleman went on to say that it was not right that the prerogative of the Crown should be used to undo what the House had done, or in such a way as to come into conflict with any decision of the House. I really cannot see that that proposition has the slightest relevancy to the subject which the hon. Gentleman was discussing. The House has never decided that Westminster was not to be a city. What the House determined, as far as it determined anything at all, was that it was not desirable that any such provision should be introduced into the Bill, and, if I mistake not, a similar view was taken in another place. To give the title of "city" to any borough is a matter for the Royal prerogative, and it is much more in accordance with constitutional usage that that prerogative should be exercised by the Crown, and that Parliament, except under very special and extraordinary circumstances, should not seek to do, by means of an Act of Parliament upon which the Legislature is engaged, that which may be done by the simple exercise of the Royal will. I thought it right, in the absence of my right hon. friend, to make these observations. I feel quite certain that the view that there is any conflict between the Royal prerogative in this matter and the House of Commons is one which is peculiar to the hon. Gentleman who expressed it, and I venture to think that a more unfounded suggestion was never made than that anything is about to take place which in the slightest degree involves a breach of faith.

*MR. HEDDERWICK (Wick Burghs): I wish before the close of the session to draw attention to a condition of affairs in the Hinterland of Sierra Leone, which may well occasion serious misgivings as to the prudence of the policy pursued by Her Majesty's Government. It may be that the Colonial Secretary may be able to make a satisfactory statement on the subject; in that case he can scarcely regret this opportunity of reassuring the country. It will be within the recollection of the House that early last summer there was a rising of the natives in the Protectorate of Sierra Leone, followed by a hideous massacre of British subjects. The news of these events created a profound and painful impression at the time, and that impression was not rendered less painful by an un-

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easy suspicion in the public mind that the policy pursued by the Colonial Office had been a contributing, if not the exciting cause both of the insurrection and of its deplorable incidents. It was under these circumstances that the Colonial Secretary resolved to appoint a Commission to inquire into the whole of the circumstances. That was a step, the wisdom of which must have approved itself generally. It was, however, hardly less important than the Commission itself, that the person selected to conduct the inquiry should be so qualified by experience and knowledge as to command the confidence of the country. No one could have been appointed more likely to satisfy that condition than Sir David Chalmers, upon whom the choice of the right hon. Gentleman fell. Sir David Chalmers had had a long and profound acquaintance with affairs in that part of Africa. In 1867 he was a magistrate of Gambia with judicial powers; in 1872 he became Queen's Advocate of Sierra Leone, and in 1876 he was appointed first Chief Justice of the Gold Coast. I suppose there is no man living who has spent so many years in the service of the Queen in that part of the Empire, and survived to claim one of those pensions which are the illusory inducements to Colonial service on those fever-stricken shores. Nor can it be said that the right hon. Gentleman failed with regard to the instructions which he drew up for the guidance of his Commissioner. The terms of reference were of the most comprehensive character. Sir David Chalmers was instructed to inquire into the cause of the insurrection and massacre; and his attention was specifically directed, not only to the imposition and effect of the hut-tax, but also to the operations of secret societies in the colony and in the Protectorate; and further to alleged incitements by the Press and by traders. It was perhaps natural that those who were responsible for the tax should look elsewhere for the cause of the catastrophe. The Commission issued in June, 1898, and upon the 21st of January, 1899, Sir David Chalmers made his Report. It is somewhat remarkable that that Report should have been in the hands of the Colonial Secretary for five months before it was presented to this House. But the right hon. Gentleman was not idle in the interval. He re-transmitted the Report to the Governor-General of Sierra Leone for his observations upon it, and finally he penned a despatch upon the situation. The delay in any case ceases to be a matter for wonder when one considers the tenour of the Report. What does the Report amount to? It is an absolute condemnation, root and branch, of the policy pursued by the Government. Sir David Chalmers paid the most careful attention to every article of his instructions, and the conclusion he comes to is that the whole and the sole cause of the insurrection and massacre was the imposition of the hut tax. These are his words:

> "The hut tax, together with the measures used for its enforcement, were the moving causes of the insurrection. The tax was obnoxious to the customs and feelings of the people. A peremptory and regularly recurring impost is unknown to their own practices and traditions. The English Government has not as yet conferred any such benefits as to lead to a burden of a strange and portentous species being accepted willingly."

That conclusion was not hastily or rashly come to; it was arrived at with the greatest reluctance, a reluctance which is not surprising; but I shall quote Sir David Chalmers' own words, because they show how unwillingly he finds himself driven by the evidence to his conclusion. He says:

> "It has been my duty to point out many grave errors—errors which by their joint operation have been the cause of this deplorable insurrection. I have done so with much regret. If I could have found that the insurrection was the result of an inevitable conflict between ancient barbarism and an advancing civilisation, I would willingly have taken this view; but to have done this would not have been consistent with the faithful discharge of the Commission with which I have been entrusted."

That conclusion may be said to be more or less confirmed by the views which have been expressed both by the Governor-General, Sir Frederick Cardew, and by the Colonial Secretary himself, for although neither of those two gentlemen admits that the hut tax was the sole cause of the insurrection, Sir Frederick Cardew acknowledges that it was "the exciting cause," and the Colonial Secretary, in his despatch, says the hut tax "clearly was the immediate and exciting cause" of the rising. It may not, perhaps, be irrelevant to the matter at issue to inquire into the

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origin of this tax. It dates from an ordinance which was passed in 1896, but it was postponed in its operation until January, 1898, in order, I presume, to give an opportunity to the authorities to familiarise the minds of the chiefs in the Protectorate with the terms of the proposal, and to ascertain their feelings towards it. At all events, in October, 1896, copies of the Ordinance were scattered far and wide throughout the Protectorate, and found their way into the hands of the chiefs. What was the nature of the reception accorded to the Ordinance? It was wholly unfavourable. The hut tax was specifically objected to. Many petitions against it were presented. The chiefs of the Mendis actually sent a representative to the Governor-General to protest against it in person. Meetings were held to denounce it. Petitions, protests, and appeals continued to flow in month after month until the end of 1897—that is, up to the time when it came into operation. It is much to be regretted that to all those appeals a deaf ear was turned by the Governor-General. The grounds of objection were of a nature that ought to commend them to his consideration. The chiefs stated again and again that they objected to the tax on account of the poverty of the people. They were unable to pay. But there was another ground. They had never been used to direct taxation. Most unfortunately, too, the manner in which the tax was promulgated inspired the chiefs with the idea that payment involved the question of the ownership, not only of their huts, but of their lands as well. Now, it is not without some bearing on the consideration of the case to remember that the Governor-General did not stumble blindly upon this tax. He was quite aware that it would be most obnoxious to the natives. On page 25 of the Commissioner's Report this is expressly stated. Writing to the Secretary of State on the 21st November, 1896, Sir Frederick Cardew said:

"The West African has a traditional dislike to direct taxation, such as a hut tax. This dislike is probably owing to the harsh manner in which such tax has been levied in this colony in former days; and ever since it was swept away by a former governor, the people have always evinced great impatience at the idea of its being reinforced."

Yet, notwithstanding this knowledge, with a confidence soon to be dreadfully belied, he goes on to say:

"I do not apprehend much trouble when the time comes in 1898 to impose this tax, but the sure way to prevent such trouble is to have the necessary show of force."

Such was his view in 1896. How short-sighted, how misleading it was destined to prove, and that before long, let Sir Frederick Cardew himself bear witness. "I do not apprehend much trouble," he writes in 1896; in 1899 this is what he has to say:

"The thought of the many valuable lives which have been lost, of the gallant officers and men who have fallen, and the devoted missionaries who have been sacrificed, of the Sierra Leonians who had been massacred, and of the many natives who have been killed, must ever remain a sad regret, the recollection of which will never pass away."

The tax was known to be most obnoxious before it was imposed, and one cannot help feeling tempted to inquire what was the reason for imposing it at all. I believe its origin is to be traced to the financial condition of the colony of Sierra Leone. The colony is in what may be called a state of insolvency. For some years there have been annual deficits in its balance sheet, and I cannot help thinking that this hut tax was imposed upon the Protectorate to enable the colony to pay its way and to keep up its expensive establishment. It was a blunder, even if it had been found necessary to impose the tax at all, that it should have been imposed upon the Protectorate alone, and not also upon the colony. The blunder seems the more extraordinary when it is remembered that the greater part of the revenue of Sierra Leone is derived from the Protectorate. I believe that, out of £87,000, roughly speaking, £49,000 is derived from the Protectorate, as against some £15,000 from the colony. Well, but the tax has been imposed, and it is pertinent to ask, with what profit? Apart altogether from the lamentable loss of life that has ensued, confidence has been destroyed, and the trade of the country, for the time being, has been ruined. There has been, we are told, a falling off in the value of exports, owing to these disturbances, of over £47,000. That is, more than half the total revenue of the colony has been lost

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—a sum almost exactly equal to the contribution from the trade of the Protectorate. But, however ill-advised, impolitic, and obnoxious the tax may have been in itself, the mode in which it was sought to be enforced rendered it a thousand times worse—made it, in fact, more than the flesh and blood of even the much-enduring negro could endure. The Report of the Royal Commission is full of instances. Take the cases of Bai Kompah and Pa Nembana, two of the chiefs of Kwaia. They were summoned before Dr. Hood. "Not presenting themselves immediately," so runs the Report, "an assistant officer of police (Captain Warren), with about twenty policemen, were sent to bring them. Pa Nembana was first apprehended, and brought in handcuffs to where Bai Kompah was. Bai Kompah, who was an old man, and then in bed with a cough, was dragged out of bed and from his room by the officer and two or three of his men, in spite of his struggles. He is said by a native witness, and by himself, to have been kicked, and a revolver held to his head. Captain Warren admits giving him a shove with his knee, and Chief Smart, who was an unwilling witness in this matter, said that Bai Kompah, when brought out of the room, complained of having been kicked, and afterwards he repeated this complaint. Bai Kompah objected very much to being taken to Kwalu, and, after a long contention, Captain Warren allowed him to go to Freetown to represent matters to the Governor; but virtually, as a prisoner, putting him in charge of two Frontier policemen. He went to Freetown, saw Sir Frederick Cardew, made his complaint, asked that the stipend which the Government had been used to pay to him should be retained as against the hut tax claimed from him. He was referred to the District Commissioner at Kwalu, and threatened with arrest if he remained in Freetown. He wrote to Sir Samuel Lewis, passionately representing his grievances, and asking him to intercede with the Governor on behalf of himself and his people. A charge of resisting with arms the authority of the Government was made against him by the District Commissioner of the Ronietta district, and the Governor informed him (10th March, 1898) that he would hold no communication with him, and that he must surrender himself to the District Commissioner at Kwalu; otherwise he would be arrested. Bai Kompah, after a time, returned to his country, and shortly afterwards died. Bai Kompah had been a very loyal chief, and all the Kwaia country (which abuts upon the colony of Sierra Leone) had been very loyal. Amongst his countrymen he was considered a special friend of the English. Pa Nembana, who was next in rank to Bai Kompah in the Kwaia, was taken as a prisoner to Kwalu, and put upon his trial on the information of Chief Smart. The charge was (1) Intimidating Chief Smart, in that he unlawfully conspired with other chiefs to prevent Chief Smart in paying his lawful dues, 'the House Tax,' and using his influence with other chiefs to do the same. (2) Not obeying the orders of the Acting District Commissioner, contained in a letter of 31st December, 1898. The sentence awarded by Captain Moore, Acting District Commissioner, was (1) deprivation of his chieftainship—an order the District Commissioner had no jurisdiction to make; (2), twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour—the hard labour being also outside of the District Commissioner's jurisdiction; and (3) thirty-six lashes. Fortunately, the Governor remitted the lashes. It will be seen, on looking at the evidence, which is printed in the Appendix, that there is no evidence of conspiracy or of intimidation, what was said by Pa Nembana not being a threat but a warning of danger. The second count in the charge expresses no offence; the duty of paying the hut tax is under the Protectorate Ordinance a civil liability (Section 43-49). No order or warning to pay could convert the non-payment into a crime. The District Commissioner's letter is simply in the position of a tax-gatherer's notice." It only remains, to complete the comment upon these outrages in the name of law, that Chief Smart, upon whose information they were perpetrated, was a chief "who much desired to stand well with the Government," and who was subsequently convicted of suborning false evidence. It is needless to multiply cases; all through the Report it is the same story of arrests, handcuffing, penal imprisonment, sentences of the lash, acts of violence, culminating sometimes in death or murder, and robbery. Even the less shocking incidents of the treatment are aggravated by the fact that the indignities heaped upon

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the Chiefs were inflicted often by Frontier policemen who had been the slaves of the chiefs whom they maltreated. Now, let us hear what the High Commissioner and late Chief Justice has to say upon this part of the matter. This is what he says on page 34 of his Report:

"Apart altogether from the law of the matter, the broad fact that these chiefs were arrested, sentenced, and afterwards dealt with in gaol as malefactors in connection with the attempt to collect this hut tax, was of the gravest significance. It aroused wonder and bitter indignation. I am tempted to quote a few of the very expressive words used by Bokari Bamp himself in reference to his position: 'Since the time of our ancestors up to the present time there has never been such disgrace to one of our chiefs as this prison dress which I wear. You can find our character in the records. No chief crowned by the Queen has been put into prison without disobeying the law except this year. . . . We have had to break stones. As I am telling you now, my heart is bleeding with tears. . . . We have been brought to prison through the hut tax, and our country is being destroyed.' As matter of construction of the Ordinance [adds the Commissioner], and as matter of inference from the manner in which the Government is wont to deal with aboriginal races, I am satisfied that it never was intended that those who neglected or delayed, or even refused, to pay the hut tax should be treated as felons. Yet this is what was done."

I remember during the Debate, a week ago, upon the Colonial Vote, the right hon. Gentleman opposite spoke of outrages committed upon British coloured subjects by the burghers of the Transvaal, and declared with an indignation which, I thought, did him credit, that no other country in the world would tolerate such outrages. I could not help wondering at the time whether the right hon. Gentleman could have in his mind this Report, which had been in his hands for months when he made that statement. Have any outrages been committed on British subjects in the Transvaal which exceed in cruelty those to which I have referred, and which are to be found scattered all over this Report of the High Commissioner? And it is to be remembered that all these things took place before the rising of the Mendis which culminated in the massacre of so many British subjects, white and coloured, men and women. In answer to a question this afternoon the right hon. Gentleman shortly described Bai Bureh as a turbulent chief, but at least it ought to be recalled to his credit that he had been our ally, and had fought side by side with us in former years. But, suppose the accusation well founded, what has Bai Bureh's turbulence of character to do with the question? The point is, Was he legally or illegally treated in connection with this tax? Upon this question the opinion of Sir David Chalmers leaves no doubt whatever. He says, page 38:

"It ought to emphasised that *the arrest of Bai Bureh which was intended, and the attempt to effect which led to the collision, was aggression pure and simple on the part of the authorities.* Even if it were thought that refusal to pay the tax would justify arrest, the evidence clearly shows that when Captain Sharpe marched against Bai Bureh no demand had reached him, and that he had not refused to pay. In Sir F. Cardew's minute of 15th February there are allusions to charges against Bai Bureh, of which he is expected to be convicted, whilst as yet he had committed no offence."

The story of the "Timinis" is of a piece with all the rest. It is a tale of expeditions, attacks, destruction of villages, sinking of boats, and shooting and slaying of natives, while, so far as our Frontier Force was concerned, not a soul seems to have received a scratch—a fact which throws a world of light upon the alleged hostility of the tribe. Such, in short, is the lamentable history of this farce of civilisation and benignant rule that has been carried on in the name of the Queen in the hinterland of Sierra Leone. It is a story which must make every man who takes a just pride in the name of England, and the traditions of his race, sick at heart to ponder over. It may be said that all this belongs now to the past—what of the future? So far as I can see from the right hon. Gentleman's despatch, we have learned little or nothing by so terrible and costly an experience. The High Commissioner, in his Report, recommends an amnesty, in order to give pause and peace to the distracted Protectorate, and he urgently counsels the repeal of this odious hut tax. But the right hon. Gentleman the Colonial Secretary throws the High Commissioner over, approves of the tax, and sanctions its continuance. He does this on the recommendation of Sir Frederick Cardew, who calmly sets aside the Report on the ground that the Commissioner has been misled by the evidence, and has been imposed upon; that is to say, the man who has spent many years of his life

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on the Gold Coast, daily hearing and trying native cases and in the sifting of native evidence—this man's Report and his conclusions are calmly waived aside by Sir Frederick Cardew, a man whose career has been mainly spent in military service in India. Sir Frederick Cardew says, as if in triumph, that the tax is now being paid; and no doubt the Colonial Secretary, upon this statement, founds his sanction for its continuance. But the Commissioner points out in his Report that the tax in many cases was paid by means of borrowed money, and he also states that no doubt the tax might continue to be paid for some time with money borrowed at ruinous rates. The right hon. Gentleman finds a further defence for the policy he is pursuing, in the fact that the French are imposing a similar tax in the interiór. We know little or nothing of the conditions of life in the interior, but I should have thought that the last person in the world to hold up to this country as a model for our colonial enterprise the methods adopted by France would have been the right hon. Gentleman opposite. We have little to learn from the French in the art of successful colonisation. Their ideas differ very widely from ours. So far as I can gather from the despatch of the right hon. Gentleman, these are his only reasons for continuing this obnoxious tax. In my opinion they are wholly inadequate. I have endeavoured to present this case to the House with studious moderation. It is a case which would readily lend itself to the use of strong language and picturesque adjectives. I have preferred to let the facts speak for themselves. I think they do so with an eloquence to which rhetorical art could add little or nothing. From the evidence in this Report, I think it is proved that the hut tax was the main and sole cause of the insurrection. In my opinion it is a cruel tax, because it equals, if it does not exceed, the value of the property upon which it is levied, and it has been illegally and barbarously enforced. It is an impolitic tax, for it has destroyed the trade of the Protectorate for the time being.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES (MR. J. CHAMBERLAIN, Birmingham, W.) dissented.

*MR. HEDDERWICK: The right hon. Gentleman shakes his head, but I have quoted a statement of Sir Frederic Cardew's to the effect that, owing to these disturbances, the value of exports decreased by £47,000, which is almost the total amount of the revenue derived from the trade in the Protectorate of Sierra Leone. I say it is an impolitic tax, because it has destroyed the trade of the Protectorate for the time being, estranged the confidence of a loyal people, and driven some of them, at all events, into insurrection and savage acts of revenge. I acknowledge the great value of the right hon. Gentleman's conduct of colonial affairs in the main. I admit frankly that he has exhibited a firmness of mind which is in strange contrast with the infirmity of purpose exhibited by the Government in other directions which it might be invidious to mention. He has made a great office of what has too often been a perfunctory post. But every virtue has the defect of its own quality, and I cannot help thinking that in this instance the right hon. Gentleman's firmness has degenerated into opinionativeness. Upon the evidence of the right hon. Gentleman's own Commissioner's Report, the imposition upon the Protectorate of this tax was an error. It is sometimes wise, though it may always be disagreeable, to confess an error and to make reparation where reparation is possible. In this case reparation is impossible; yet if the right hon. Gentleman cannot repair the mischief of the past, he may at least, by declining to continue this tax, avoid a recurrence of calamity and certainly relieve the people of the Protectorate from a burthen they can hardly bear.

*SIR WILFRID LAWSON (Cumberland, Cockermouth): I should like to make a few observations upon the Second Reading of this Bill. After all the Second Reading of the Appropriation Bill is an occasion which we are entitled to take advantage of, because we shall not be able to speak in Parliament upon these subjects probably for another six months. It seems to me that the enormous sums of money which we are asked to appropriate to-day arise in consequence of the policy which the Government have adopted. The large sums voted for military purposes show by their very nature that the policy adopted is not a sound one. Any policy which requires

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£50,000,000 to be expended on armaments to keep it going is, in my opinion, by that very fact, proved to be a bad policy. This does not seem to do us any good, for the more money you spend the more scares you have. Since the Government came into office we have had the American scare, the Russian scare, the French scare, and now we have the Transvaal scare. I think we ought to have a parting word about the latter scare, although some hon. Members think enough has been said already. I remember on one occasion, when there was some trouble with Russia, we were told before we departed that no change of policy would be made, but a fortnight after that the Indian troops were sent to attack the Russians. Therefore we ought to be very cautious in giving the Government an entirely free hand, and we ought to get all the information we can out of them as to their intentions before we break up. We have been told that the honour and integrity of the Empire depends upon what we do in the Transvaal, and I agree with that. I do think that the honour and integrity of the Empire is very much at stake in matters of this kind, and I will just take this opportunity to read to the House a few sentences from the *Spectator* newspaper, which says:

> "Let our leaders never forget to tell the people that an Empire can only continue when it has a moral basis. Once try to base an Empire on greed or self-interest and it must perish."

That is different to the idea of the hon. Member for the Ecclesall Division of Sheffield. I quote it because that is the position of the "Little Englander," who believes that morals ought to influence politics and not simply greed. I consider that our Boer policy is based upon a most immoral basis. The proposal is that we should break a solemn Convention which we made with the Boers, under which they were to have perfect independence to manage their own affairs, with the exception that we were to have a veto upon their Treaties with Foreign States. That was the whole thing as far as I understand it. The First Lord of the Treasury in a speech the other day said that he thought the whole of this trouble arose on account of what Mr. Gladstone did in the matter.

THE FIRST LORD OF THE TREASURY (Mr. A. J. BALFOUR, Manchester, E.): I never said that.

*SIR WILFRID LAWSON: Well, the right hon. Gentleman said something very like that, at any rate. When the late Lord Randolph Churchill went out to that country he recanted all he had ever said about it, and declared that he was convinced that if Mr. Gladstone had not adopted the policy he did the Cape would have been lost. It seems to me that the question of the franchise is a question which an independent country has entirely in its own hands. And yet for this we have the honour of England trailed in the mud, furious despatches written, troops moved, and cowardly threats of war. Never before has this country been so humiliated by any policy as by that of the right hon. Gentleman. Putting aside all question of abstract right, what justification have we at all for interfering? It appears to me the grounds put forward are absolutely ridiculous. First of all, it is said that the registration is badly attended to, that people do not get registered at a sufficiently early period. That is exactly what is done here. The whole object of our registration laws is to prevent people getting on the register—to keep them off as long as possible. Then we are told that the Boer Government is an oligarchy. Fancy this country complaining of an oligarchy when we have the House of Lords! I see the hon. Member for South Tyrone sitting opposite, and when he speaks one may suppose he speaks for the Government. He said not many years ago that nobody outside a lunatic asylum defends the House of Lords. Yet there is a great outcry against the Boers because their Government is an oligarchy! Then we are told they will not let people hold public meetings. You will not let people have public meetings in Ireland.

AN HON. MEMBER: Quite right!

*SIR WILFRID LAWSON: It may be right or it may be wrong, but why cry out against the Boers for doing the same thing? Then there is the liquor traffic. We are told that President Kruger does not put down the liquor traffic as he ought to do. Put down the liquor traffic? Why do you not put it down

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here if you really object to it? Here the country is getting £30,000,000, nearly one-third of its revenue, from selling drink, and although you cannot keep even this House free from drink, you say you are going to war upon Oom Paul because he will not put down the liquor traffic! I never heard anything more absurd. Then it is said that the Government is corrupt. The Government corrupt? What have we been doing for the last four years? Pouring out the people's money like water for the benefit of private individuals—English landowners, Irish landowners, Church schools and churches. And then we say we will go to war with Oom Paul because he is corrupt! Then it is said the people are very much oppressed. I should like to know why they go there. Nobody told them to go. They went there to make money, and they are making it fast enough. Because of these grievances, the same as we endure in this country, the war-drum is beat, and the right hon. Gentleman makes speeches full of sound and fury, but, I hope, signifying nothing. For this the colonies send offers of assistance—what for? To crush 30,000 Boers. I really do not know which country appears the more ridiculous—the country which offers or the country which is ready to receive the assistance. These people think it a fine thing to offer to send troops to help us, knowing that we are so strong that in a war there could be no question of what the result would be. The right hon. Gentleman often reminds me of a French statesman who when he died had this epitaph written upon him—"He spent his life in going to the rescue of the strongest." All I can say is that I do not believe public opinion will endorse the policy of that trinity of mischief—The Colonial Secretary, Sir Alfred Milner, and Mr. Rhodes, and I hope that during the recess there will be such a demonstration of feeling as to prevent this shameful and cowardly policy having any chance of success.

MR. C. P. SCOTT (Lancashire, Leigh): I think it would be useful to hear from the Government on what grounds we propose to settle this controversy with the Transvaal. Do we intend to settle it on the ground of right, or on the ground of force, and what is called national interest? The hon. Member for the Ecclesall Division was very frank with us. He told us that, so far as he was concerned, he put the question of interest first and duty second. Will he dispute that it is our duty to observe the principles of justice? He frankly confessed he would place the interest of this country before any considerations of justice or right, and we should be glad to know whether or not that view is shared by the Government. Until we are told that this question is to be settled simply by right and might, we are entitled to assume that the Government will endeavour to settle it upon grounds of justice and policy.

SIR E. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT: Policy!

MR. C. P. SCOTT: I would remind the hon. Member that no policy can be sound which is not based upon justice, and no policy with any other foundation can in the end redound to the credit or honour of the country. It must be admitted, even by the hon. Member for the Ecclesall Division, that as far as the treaty is concerned we have absolutely no right whatever to insist upon settling this question of the franchise or any other domestic question in the Transvaal according to our pleasure. But we are told there is something beyond the treaty, there is something called a suzerainty—some great and wide power which is over and above any expressed considerations in the treaty. In that connection I would quote the instructions which were given by Lord Kimberley before the Convention of 1881. That was the treaty in the preamble of which the suzerainty was expressly established. Lord Kimberley explained the suzerainty with perfect fairness in the despatch of the 31st March to Sir Hercules Robinson, and again in his negotiation with regard to this treaty. He said:

> "Entire freedom of action will be accorded to the Transvaal Government, so far as is not inconsistent to the rights expressly reserved to the suzerain power."

Then he goes on to say:

> "The term 'suzerainty' has been chosen as most conveniently describing superiority over a State possessing independent rights of Government, subject to reservation with reference to certain specified points."

You cannot have the matter more clearly or precisely explained than is done in

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those instructions of Lord Kimberley to Sir Hercules Robinson. He says that the only reservation which is to be made in respect to the suzerainty is as to matters which are specified in the treaty. Even in the Convention of 1881, although many matters were specified as reserved, there was no mention whatever of the franchise or any other domestic question. Therefore, even supposing that the Convention had remained intact, and the suzerainty had remained intact, which is a disputed point, it only entitles us to interfere in regard to certain specified matters, among which the franchise is not one. That Convention, however, has been abrogated, and in place of it another Convention was substituted which also specified certain matters reserved to the authority of the Queen; and, even if the suzerainty survives, it gives us no right to interfere in the domestic affairs of the Transvaal, but only the right of interference in certain specified matters. Nothing can be plainer than that the contention that over and above the matters which are reserved to you by the first or the second Convention, you have certain general powers of interference as suzerain, is absolutely incapable of proof. It is disproved by this despatch of Lord Kimberley's. We have been told that we have certain rights, not in respect of the treaty, but of the protocol. I think the speech of the First Lord of the Treasury a short time ago, in which great stress was laid upon it, was the first time the protocol had been disinterred. But is it not a misdescription to speak of these shorthand writer's notes as a protocol of the treaty? By referring to the Blue Book, I find that there were meetings between the Commissioners of this country and Mr. Kruger, extending over twenty-two days. They discussed all manner of matters, and these discussions were taken down by the shorthand writer, and are embodied in this Book [exhibiting Blue Book]. In the whole course of those discussions there was only one brief reference to this question of the franchise, and that reference was quoted by the Colonial Secretary the other night. Sir Hercules Robinson had been contending for freedom of trade, and Mr. Kruger said there was not the slightest intention of interfering with the freedom of trade, and that there would be equal freedom for everybody. Then Sir Evelyn Wood said, "And equal privileges?" To which Mr. Kruger replied, "We make no difference so far as burgher rights are concerned. There may, perhaps, be some slight difference in the case of a young person who has just come into the country." It was afterwards explained that "young person" is mistranslated from the Dutch; it should really be "new comer." Sir Hercules Robinson, who was the responsible person, did not take the question up; on the contrary, he immediately changed the conversation. There was no reference to the question in the treaty or convention, and simply because of that casual statement of Mr. Kruger's this allegation of bad faith is brought forward. An accusation on more flimsy grounds was never made. Moreover, circumstances changed. So long as the Boers remained in a passive state, and those who came in were comparatively few, and presented no danger to the State, the old franchise law remained. It remained for several years; but then came this great influx of new comers, and it was absolutely necessary that there should be some more stringent provision with regard to aliens and the naturalisation of aliens. The period was raised from one to five years, and, while I think the Boers went too far, no protest whatever was made by this country. Even when the period was raised to fourteen years no protest was made, and twelve or more years have elapsed without the slightest protest or objection. Now the Colonial Secretary comes forward and is prepared to make it a ground for war. Anything more preposterous cannot be imagined, in point of right, equity, or international decency, than this allegation of bad faith in regard

Mr. C. P. Scott.

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to the franchise. A great deal of importance has been attached to the despatch of Lord Ripon in 1894. It has been alleged that in some way Lord Ripon has supplied a pretext or parallel for the present procedure of the Colonial Secretary. I say without the slightest fear of contradiction that that statement is absolutely without foundation. What did Lord Ripon do? In 1894 he wrote two despatches—one was about the Swazis, and the other was the despatch which is quoted in the appendix to this Blue Book and dated October 19, 1894, with regard to certain grievances. Lord Ripon wrote:

"I now proceed to deal with certain questions which stand in need of solution if the relations of this country with the South African Republic are to be placed on a satisfactory footing."

Quite right. There were certain constitutional changes desired, and Lord Ripon begged Sir Hercules Robinson to urge on the Transvaal Government the need of these changes—but he did it in connection with the Swazi question. He did not put forward a threat; what he proposed was a bargain. He said:

"President Kruger wants something from us with regard to Swaziland; we want something from President Kruger in connection with the franchise. I beg you to bring this matter under his attention, point out what we want and why we want it."

There was not the slightest suggestion of the use of force or threats of any kind. We wish to deal with this matter on the broad grounds of equity, and, above all, we wish treaty rights to be respected, and just as we insist on the treaty obligations of other countries towards us being carried out, we have a right to ask that the executive of this country should not themselves infringe the treaty which they have made, and that the honour of this nation should not be soiled by the infliction of a gross injustice upon a free State by the use of the overwhelming forces of this country in a cause which the Government have not been able to and cannot defend.

MR. J. CHAMBERLAIN: After listening to the speech of the hon. Gentleman who has just sat down and of the hon. Baronet who preceded him, I confess I cannot honestly congratulate President Kruger on his advocates in this House. It is not that they are not wanting in enthusiasm. There is plenty of enthusiasm for the cause which they have undertaken—or rather for any cause which is not the cause of their own country or their own countrymen. But I venture to think that their enthusiasm is not accompanied with much discretion. The speech of the hon. Gentleman who has just sat down appeared to me to be really an argument between the *Manchester Guardian* and the *Daily News*, with which I really have no concern. I do not think that either of the two hon. Gentlemen or the House will expect that at this time of the session I should enter into a belated sequel of the Debate of Friday week last, when there was a full discussion of everything that concerned all our differences with the Transvaal. On that occasion Her Majesty's Government explained as clearly as possible what was their policy and what were the grounds of that policy. Nothing has happened since to change our view. Nothing has changed in the situation, and, therefore, I have nothing to add to and nothing to withdraw from the statement which was then made on behalf of the Government. I cannot account for the action of the hon. Members in thus seeking to re-open a Debate which came to a satisfactory conclusion.

AN HON. MEMBER: No.

MR. J. CHAMBERLAIN: On Friday week neither of these hon. Members had the courage to divide the House and challenge that policy which the hon. Member who has just sat down described as involving injuriously the honour of this country.

MR. A. J. BALFOUR: "Soiled the honour of this country."

MR. J. CHAMBERLAIN: Yes, "soiled the honour of the country." The hon. Member was here on Friday week. Why did he not then divide the House and test the feeling of the House with regard to the soiling of the honour of the country? He did not divide the House, because he

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knew he could not have taken twenty Members of the House into the lobby with him.

HON. MEMBERS: Oh, oh!

AN HON. MEMBER: It is not true.

MR. J. CHAMBERLAIN: After that, it is ridiculous, at this time of the session, for the hon. Member to get up and now challenge what he then refused to divide upon. I come now to a much more important, a much more serious question, and that is the question raised with great moderation by the hon. Member for Wick. I do not blame him in the least for raising a matter of very great importance, on which there may very well be two opinions in the House. It is a question which involves policy in respect to the future as well as in the past. I can take no exception to the language in which he introduced the subject, except for the complaint he has made that it was a very remarkable fact that the Report of Sir David Chalmers should have been in the hands of the Colonial Secretary for five months before it was presented to the House. I do not suppose that the hon. Member intended it, but that remark conveyed the imputation that the Report was withheld. That would be unfair, and I do not think the hon. Member intended to convey that. I will tell the House exactly what the facts were. The Report was delivered in the first instance in an unofficial form. I desired to communicate with Sir David Chalmers on the subject, and I asked him to give me an interview. Unfortunately, owing to illness, which was very much due to his labours in this matter, Sir David Chalmers was unable to see me, and I had, therefore, to put in the Report without the opportunity of first discussing it with him. That caused a delay of, perhaps, a fortnight. The Report contained accusations against officials. Now, as Colonial Secretary, I have a serious responsibility with reference to all officials in the colonial service. They are not able to speak for themselves; they speak through me. They are bound to keep quiet, to keep silent, and, of course, I am responsible for their action if I endorse it. But when their conduct is in any way impugned it is my first duty to give them an opportunity to reply. Accordingly, before presenting this Report of Sir David Chalmers, I thought it necessary to inquire of Sir Frederick Cardew. He necessarily took some time to consider so important a document, and the moment his reply came into my hands it was investigated by the Department and by myself. Not a moment was lost, and as soon as possible after anything like an impartial judgment was come to the whole of the Papers were presented to the House. Now, Sir David Chalmers was selected by me to make an inquiry into the difficult situation which had arisen in Sierra Leone. I have not one word to say against him. He was recommended to me by his long experience of his work and his most valuable public services. He had been Chief Justice, and he was therefore naturally supposed to have, and rightly supposed to have, a judicial and impartial mind, and he most patriotically agreed to go out to a country of whose climate he had had some experience. It was there, I am afraid, that he contracted the seeds of new disease, and he has suffered very severely in consequence. Sir David Chalmers was selected as the most impartial and judicious man I could find, and I am most thankful, most grateful, to him for the very valuable inquiries he made. I think he has placed a most valuable number of facts before us; and although I have not found myself able to agree with all the conclusions at which he arrived, I am none the less sensible of the obligations I am under to him for the inquiry and for the services he has done. The hon. Member seems to have made a mistake at the outset. He seems to think that in appointing Sir David Chalmers to make this inquiry, I was bound to accept the result of his inquiry. No, Sir; that is not my position at all. My position is that of a judge. I employ a Commissioner to ascertain as far as possible the facts, and I have to compare those facts with other statements in my possession, and eventually, to the best of my knowledge and ability, to do justice as between all concerned. To take the opinion of a Commissioner appointed to make inquiry, without making a separate inquiry of my own, would be to devolve upon this Commissioner the responsibility of the Secretary of State. I cannot get rid of that responsibility even if I wished it; but let

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me point out that if I had accepted every word of the Report of the Commissioner I should have been properly open to blame from those who would say that I had not myself investigated the subject-matter of this Report. Now, in doing justice to Sir David Chalmers, who was appointed an independent and impartial judge, and whose character is not in the slightest degree called in question in regard to this business, let us at the same time not forget to do justice to Sir Frederick Cardew. He is a gentleman who has spent a large portion of his life in the public service, with great credit to himself, in many different parts of the world. He was appointed to his present position by my predecessor. I am not responsible for that appointment, although I readily endorse it. But I think Sir Frederick Cardew has done more than any other Governor of Sierra Leone has done in investigating and going to the bottom of the circumstances without any regard to the trouble or risk to himself. At great inconvenience he has travelled in every part of what is after all a wild, savage, and almost an untrodden country. In the course of his investigations, which were more thorough than ever made before, this is what he found. The colony of Sierra Leone is practically little more than a coast strip, which, of course, has been under British law for a long period. Behind that there is a huge Hinterland with a very considerable though scattered population, and in that district for centuries there has been going on what is usual in wild tropical parts of Africa—that is, the brutal customs of slavery of the worst kind, and, what is worse than slavery, slave raiding. In the latter, in slave raiding, a husband is torn from his wife and from his family to be carried to another part of the country, to be brutally treated until a master has been assigned to him. That is the state of things in the Hinterland of Sierra Leone, as in all parts of our West African possessions. Was that to continue? I do not say that anybody was to blame. After all, we cannot do more than is in our power. The progress of civilisation must be gradual. When the boundaries of Sierra Leone were settled for us by the treaty with the French within definite limits, then at the moment when we undertook responsibilities with regard to our European neighbours, and when with an increase of our resources it became within our means to deal with such a state of things as I have described, it became our duty to take the steps I have stated. Lord Ripon, writing in 1894, said that "slave raiding has been the root of the disturbances in the Hinterland of Sierra Leone, and the obligations of the Brussels Act bound us to take all possible steps to put this practice down." It was certainly the duty of the British Government to take all possible steps to secure a moderate amount of peace and order in the Hinterland, and, above all, to put down the abominable practice of slave raiding and the endless tribal wars. With that object the frontier police was established. It is a native force, and let me say at once a native police has always the same virtues and weaknesses. Its virtues are loyalty to its officers or leaders, hardiness and endurance, and ability to perform their work under most difficult circumstances with very little grumbling. Probably a cheaper or braver force never existed than some of these African forces under British officers. But its weakness is that you cannot trust the West African negro by himself. He is a most excellent servant, but when he becomes a master, even among his own people, he is tyrannical, arbitrary, and cannot be depended upon. So it is with these people of Sierra Leone. It is a fact that bodies of district police were sent out without white officers to control them, and they were guilty occasionally of offences, and, without pressing any accusation against them, at all events, their presence alone without white men was most irritating to the chiefs and to the natives; and that was to a certain extent the cause of the troubles we have had to deal with. I have said it is absolutely necessary, if this country is to deal with the question of slave raiding in the Hinterland, that we should have this frontier police and some sort of district jurisdiction. Stepping aside for one moment, I may say that I am continually appealed to from both sides of the House, as my predecessors have been, to put down slavery in Africa. My own sympathies are entirely with those who make this appeal, but do let them recollect that if this policy is insisted upon, as I think it ought to be, it cannot be carried out without bloodshed. You cannot have it both ways. In my opinion the evil caused by slave raiding is so great that the few lives lost in putting it down are well shed in

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comparison with the numberless lives which are lost in keeping it up. Only, do not let us be accused of making wars at the same time as we are appealed to to put down slavery. You cannot make omelettes without breaking eggs; you cannot put down slavery without having occasional wars and bloodshed in West Africa. There was, therefore, a necessity for a frontier force. That costs money—a great deal of money—and district jurisdiction, even of an imperfect kind, and the spread of civilisation, also costs money, and we had to raise funds. We raised these funds by a hut tax. We are told it was wrong, but nobody has suggested an alternative. Neither by the hon. Member opposite nor by anybody else can an alternative be suggested. I defy anyone to suggest any alternative to this direct taxation, if the money is to be found which is required in order to put down slavery.

*MR. HEDDERWICK: Sir Frederick Cardew himself suggests an increase of the duty on salt and tobacco.

MR. J. CHAMBERLAIN: I did not hear the hon. Gentleman in his interruption, because I confess I have been shocked by the information conveyed to me since I sat down that Sir David Chalmers died on Saturday. I confess I am glad that in the earlier portion of my remarks I said nothing derogatory to the deceased gentleman's character. Going back to the argument of the hon. Gentleman, the only other taxes that have been suggested are those suggested to me by the Liverpool and Manchester Chambers of Commerce, but the income from these sources would be totally insufficient to pay the cost of the frontier police. I should be very glad to be assisted in carrying out any schemes for developing the colony, but they will be totally inadequate to provide the money which is necessary for the frontier force. That, I hope, the hon. Member will take from me, and I am certain that without increasing the taxes upon imports—which are already, if anything, too high, and which, if it were done, would very materially lessen the amount of trade—we cannot rely upon securing a sufficient revenue without adopting some direct taxation. There is this advantage in a hut tax—it has nothing to do with the value of the hut; it is like a poll tax, which has nothing to do with the value of the men; it is a plan of direct taxation very cheap in its collection; it is not excessive in amount; it only amounts really to one shilling per head of the population. It is impossible to conceive of any direct taxation more moderate in extent than that. And, further, it is a tax with which the natives are fully acquainted, and which has been hitherto universally successful. It has been said by Miss Kingsley, a traveller in the country, that the hut tax is particularly objectionable to the people of the Hinterland, inasmuch as they hold that any periodic tax in the shape of a hut tax constitutes an infringement of their right of property. I have the greatest respect for Miss Kingsley and her investigations, but when I find that her views are not shared by other travellers in the Hinterland, then I come back to the pure light of reason, and I wonder whether really the natives are such fools as Miss Kingsley thinks. As a matter of fact they are very shrewd people where their own direct interests are concerned, and I am quite clear they will never believe that their proprietorship of their houses is in any way infringed by a tax of this kind, when experience shows them it does not carry with it any other direct or indirect interference with their property. In Liberia, which is a neighbouring country similar in many of its circumstances, there is a poll-tax of 6s. 3d. per head, six times at least the tax which we are levying now in the Sierra Leone Hinterland. In the French Soudan there is a tax of 2f. per head, nearly twice as much as we are levying; in French Guinea, which is next door to ourselves, there is actually a hut tax, which has been levied without the slightest difficulty, of 10f. per hut, whereas our tax is only 5s. per hut. The hon. Member for Wick referred to a case of a certain chief; I think he represented him as a murdered chief. The only thing I know about this chief is that he levied a hut tax of 10s. It is true he levied 10s. per head to make war against us, but I do not think that shows that the principle of a hut tax is, at all events, unfamiliar or altogether unwelcome to the natives of the Hinterland.

*MR. HEDDERWICK: Was that a fixed tax?

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MR. J. CHAMBERLAIN: No, certainly it was not a fixed tax. That is the beauty of it. In the case of any tax levied by British authorities, whether in the Hinterland of Sierra Leone or in Egypt, it is a fixed tax. Every man knows what he has got to pay, and when he has paid he is not asked to pay more. When he has paid he knows that he is free. But in the case of these chiefs, as in the case of the old Pashas of the Soudan, the moment the tax is levied the people who collect it double or treble it, and there is no end to the extortion. A hut tax levied by a chief in the Hinterland of Sierra Leone is in the nature of an irregular extortion; a hut tax levied by us is in the nature of a local rate. Everybody knows exactly what he has to pay, why he has to pay it, what he gets in return for it, and that he is perfectly safe as soon as he has paid it. Under these circumstances, in my opinion, Sir Frederick Cardew was perfectly justified, when he had to find a fund to establish a frontier police force and enforce the jurisdiction we instituted in the Hinterland, to look to a hut tax in order to give him the money. We are told that the hut tax was the cause of the war, and that was no doubt the view of Sir David Chalmers. After all, I do not think the difference between us is very great, and in one sense I agree with Sir David Chalmers and those who take this view. The hut tax was the spark that fired the mine, no doubt; but what I want to represent to the House is, I am absolutely convinced that the mine was there, and that it must have exploded with or without the hut tax some day or another. I find that one of the chiefs, in speaking to Dr. Bartley, the medical officer, used some rather characteristic expressions. He said the pot of soup already contained vegetables and meat, by which he meant slavery and the interference of the traders with the natives, but the pepper, by which he meant the hut tax, gave the seasoning to set the pot on the fire. That native view I believe to be absolutely true. In the same way, there was another chief who said it was not the hut tax that started the war, but the belief of the chiefs that if they were united they would be able to expel the British and return to the native customs—not so much the barbarous customs, the fetish customs, to which, no doubt, many of the savages are attached, but principally to the custom of slavery. In respect to the question of slavery, one of the chiefs, when he was brought up for trial in connection with one of the murders that took place, declared that what he complained of was interference with his domestic slaves — that the slaves ran away, and that they had no means of recovering them. That was to destroy, of course, a great property, the privileges of the chiefs, and naturally they were all rendered very uneasy by the progress of civilisation in this respect. As far as the chiefs are concerned, it seems to me certain that when they came before Judge Bonner, who was appointed to try them—and who was specially sent out for that purpose as absolutely impartial and well qualified—not one of them alleged the hut-tax as the cause for the insurrection. That is a very remarkable fact which I think may be set against the opinion expressed by Sir David Chalmers. I also in this matter attach considerable importance to the opinion of the missionaries. The missionaries in Sierra Leone especially have done most admirable work. I have never heard a word said against them; they are largely Americans, and the American missionaries are always very practical people. They try to civilise the people by conferring direct benefits upon them; they are doctors, and they cure them in their illnesses; they are carpenters and mechanics of various kinds, and they teach them trades, and in that way they endeavour to gain their confidence, and then they teach them religion. I do attach importance to the views the missionaries expressed on this subject, and, as far as I know, without exception, the missionaries declare that the hut tax was not the sole cause — was not really anything more than I have said, a spark that lit the mine. Mr. Evans said that what caused the war was the interference of civilisation with savage customs. This view, I think, is confirmed by the fact that when the insurrection broke out the districts where no tax whatever had been imposed, and where there had been no attempt to collect a tax, rose simultaneously with the others, in accordance, evidently, with a general understanding. The belief which often prevails among a savage people that they can throw off the power which has obtained control over their affairs, and the belief that they could defeat the Eng-

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lish and expel them from the country, was widespread, and was only corrected by the results of the insurrection. I think, then, I have shown that some tax was necessary, that the hut tax was a tax which naturally suggested itself, and that the hut tax was certainly not the cause of the war, although it may have been the immediate provocative. The hon. Member appealed to me to withdraw this tax. That was Sir David Chalmers' view, although I think he put it forward rather diffidently, and suggested some alternative. But since Sir David Chalmers' report was written we have had a good deal of fresh experience. The tax has been collected with the greatest ease, it has come in perfectly well, the natives are becoming accustomed to it, and there does not seem the slightest probability of any further objection being taken. If we withdraw it now it will be interpreted as a confession of weakness, and as a justification of rebellion, and will seriously impair the influence for good of the Government of Sierra Leone. I find that the chambers of commerce, who were opposed to the tax in the first instance, without necessarily altering in any way their view as to its inception, are now of opinion that it would not be desirable or necessary to remove it. The hon. Member quoted some figures of Sir Frederick Cardew's. I think he must have misunderstood them, because the facts of the case are quite different from the inference he has drawn. Sierra Leone appears to be entering upon another period of great prosperity. The revenue for the year 1897 was £106,000, in 1898 it was £117,000, and in 1899, speaking from the experience of the first half of the year, it is at the rate of £191,000. That is to say, it is almost double what it was two years ago. The imports, which were £451,000 in 1897, were £561,000 in 1898 — imports chiefly of British produce — and are at the rate of £685,000 for the present year. I think in these circumstance we may be pretty confident that the effects of this disastrous insurrection have now almost passed away, and that the country is not only recovering its old prosperity, but is very much improving its position. I have spoken of points—all of them are very important points—on which I most reluctantly had to differ from Sir David Chalmers and to support Sir Frederick Cardew. But there are many points in the report of Sir David Chalmers with which I entirely agree, and I have taken action in consequence. I believe, for instance, if this tax is to be collected in the future, that the chiefs should be interested in its collection, and an increased commission will accordingly be given to those who are engaged in the collection of the tax. I believe it is very desirable that the frontier police should be under more strict European control, and I have given instructions that the police shall be concentrated in districts according to the suggestion of the Special Commissioner, and that they are not to undertake any executive duty without being accompanied by a white officer. I have also agreed, where a dispute arises about titles of land between natives, that it should be settled by the chiefs, because I agree with the Special Commissioner that the authority of the chiefs should as far as possible be maintained, and that we should endeavour to rule the country through the chiefs, and to increase and not diminish their influence, provided that influence is used for good. I have ordered that the Ordinance should be altered in a particular to which reference has been made, which seemed to authorise the flogging of chiefs for not collecting the tax. That was never intended, but by a distortion of the Ordinance it might have been possible. I have given instructions that nothing of the kind should in any circumstances be allowed. We also propose to remove a great injustice of which the chiefs have complained, which is that the hut tax has been collected in the Hinterland and not in the colony. I quite agree with Sir David Chalmers in that matter, and an Ordinance will be passed extending the hut tax to the colony as well as to the Hinterland. I assure the hon. Gentleman opposite that I appreciate his motives, and I hope he will appreciate mine. I have a very difficult position between the Special Commissioner, in whose impartiality and high sense of justice I have the utmost confidence, and, on the other hand, an old public servant, who had deserved the confidence of all his former chiefs. No doubt it was an extremely difficult task to estimate exactly the rights of the case when these two unfortunately differed upon important points of policy. I have not given a judgment on one side or the other, but having given to the whole subject many hours of most careful con-

Mr. J. Chamberlain.

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sideration, and having consulted everybody who had any experience of the colony, I have come to the conclusion that, while on some points of very important policy I am bound to support Sir Frederick Cardew, and while I feel no blame attaches to him for his conduct in this matter, on the other hand, I am greatly indebted to Sir David Chalmers for the recommendations he has made, and I have been very glad to adopt many of those recommendations.

MR. WILLIAM JONES (Carnarvonshire, N.) called attention to the condition and the administration of mines and quarries in Wales, and wished to know whether the recommendations of Dr. Foster were to be translated into special rules, and whether they had been brought under the notice of the inspectors. He pointed out that some of them would require special legislation to carry them into effect. Although there had been some improvement in the condition of the mines, many of them still showed a shameful state of affairs in respect of the ventilation, defective gear, roofing, and other points, which tended to make the life and health of workmen insecure. The ventilation, or rather the absence of it, was scandalous, and he hoped the right hon. Gentleman the Home Secretary would be able to give some satisfactory reply.

*THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE HOME DEPARTMENT (Sir M. W. RIDLEY, Lancashire, Blackpool) was glad to say that some progress had been made since this question was brought to the attention of the House on a former occasion, and agreed that the non-fatal accidents in metalliferous mines were far too numerous. The Home Office were aware of this, and had done their best with the powers at their disposal. Every credit, too, was due to Dr. Foster, who had greatly exerted himself, and whose life had been endangered by descending a number of mines. He held in his hand a copy of special rules which had been accepted by all the large proprietors of mines in Wales, and they were negotiating with others, and it was the intention of the Home Office, pending further legislation, to try and get some rules of the sort as far as possible accepted. A Bill had been prepared for some time, which contained a provision analogous to that contained in the Coal Mines Acts, that there should be proper certification of managers in metalliferous mines. The Home Office were fully alive to the importance of the matter.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR (Liverpool, Scotland) rose to call attention to the suppression of Mr. W. O'Brien's telegram to Mr. Kilbride in reference to the Mulrany forgery case. He said he would endeavour to be very brief, but he was compelled to refer to one or two antecedent events in order to explain the circumstances of the case. There was a very powerful and important organisation in the West of Ireland, which was, he was glad to say, now spreading over the other provinces, the object of which was to form a combination of the tenants for the improvement of their position. The organisation, which was not only beneficent, but also thoroughly legal, had been the subject of a good deal of quiet police persecution. One incident that occurred in connection with this organisation was this. A certain Sergeant Sullivan, who was a very able and energetic opponent of the League, was accused of forging a letter in the name of a man named McHale, who was president of a branch of the United Irish League. This letter, which was an incitement to commit a moonlighting outrage on a man who was boycotted, was sent to a member of the League and purported to be signed by McHale, who was president. The charge was made that Sullivan had written that letter, and he was prosecuted by the Crown authorities at Sligo Assizes, and acquitted. Immediately afterwards, McHale sought another means of vindicating his character, and brought an action

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for libel against this man Sullivan. Now, it was in connection with this action that the question occurred to which he (Mr. O'Connor) desired to call the attention of the Secretary to the Treasury. Mr. William O'Brien, who is the parent of the United Irish League, was in communication with Mr. Valentine Kilbride, the solicitor for McHale, the plaintiff in the case against Sullivan. In connection with the preparation of the trial Mr. O'Brien sent a telegram, of which he himself has given the fullest description, and which was certainly of a most important character. Mr. McHale was fighting for his whole character, and practically for his life, and this telegram was practically intended to decide whether the action was to go on or not. He (Mr. O'Connor) dwelt upon the importance of the telegram. He held he was entitled to the request he was going to make in connection with the matter, even if the telegram was of the most trivial character. His interpretation of the duty of the Telegraph Department was that every message given in by a member of the public became a sacred charge and trust in the hands of the Department—as sacred, to his mind, as the confessional. Simultaneously with handing in this telegram Mr. O'Brien wrote to the solicitor in Dublin, and in the course of the day he handed in at the same post office other telegrams which were acknowledged to have duly arrived; but for some mysterious reason this particular telegram did not arrive in Dublin. With regard to the main facts of the case there was no dispute. The matter was brought before the Secretary to the Treasury, who gave a perfectly candid answer, and in some respects a satisfactory answer. He said that very careful inquiries had been made; that no explanation could be given of the circumstance, that although the telegram had been duly despatched from Westport it did not arrive in Dublin. There was another important matter in connection with this telegram to which attention should be directed. Everybody knew that it was a wise and proper rule of the Telegraph Department that when a telegram was sent, and when, for some reason or other, the Department found it impossible to deliver it, whether from insufficiency of address or the absence of an individual from a particular address, the department promptly and immediately supplied the sender with notice that the telegram could not be delivered. That was a most satisfactory rule, and one that, so far as his experience went, had been invariably followed, except in connection with the case to which he now called attention. This extraordinary thing occurred, that not only was the telegram not delivered, but no notice whatever was sent to Mr. O'Brien about the non-delivery of it. If it had not been for the fact that Mr. O'Brien wrote to Mr. Kilbride almost simultaneously with the despatch of the telegram, Mr. O'Brien would have remained to this day, so far as the Department is concerned, without any knowledge of the fact that this most important telegram was never delivered. He (Mr. O'Connor) said that his case for a most rigid inquiry had been made out, and the Postmaster-General was bound to pursue this inquiry until he had probed the matter to the bottom. There could be only two or three individuals involved. Here was a small country post office with a very small staff, and yet the right hon. Gentleman came down and told the House that although careful inquiries had been made this simple transaction remained unexplained. Now he had to deal with another point. Mr. Dillon asked the right hon. Gentleman had the Post Office authorities inquired whether Sergeant Sullivan was in Westport at the time the message was handed in, and the right hon. Gentleman said the postmaster of Westport believed Sergeant Sullivan was not in Westport at the time the message was handed in. His (Mr. O'Connor's) information was that Sergeant Sullivan and Mr. Robertson, the clerk to whom the message was handed in, were in com-

Mr. T. P. O'Connor.

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pany in Westport the night before the telegram was handed in.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY TO THE TREASURY (Mr. HANBURY, Preston): Is it the fact that Robertson was the clerk to whom it was handed?

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR said that was the information which he had received—"Were seen drinking in Westport late on the night before the despatch of the telegram, and that they lodged in the same house in Westport that same night." Was it the fact that Robertson was the name of the clerk, the right hon. Gentleman asked. Well, it seemed to show that there had not been much inquiry, when that fact came to him as a surprise. It was a matter that should be probed to the bottom. There was distrust in Ireland with regard to public Departments, and the feeling there was, that in the case of the United League forgery had been employed against it, and that in the case of a great public Department the trust which lay upon it had not been fulfilled. On the contrary, it had grossly neglected its duty, which was to penetrate to the heart of this mystery and punish the people who were responsible for so gross a breach of public duty. Englishmen were scandalised at the revelations in the Dreyfus case, but the value of their declarations on that subject was greatly discounted when forgery and unfair dealing were allowed to go unquestioned so long as they were committed for political purposes in Ireland. Under these circumstances the country had a right to demand that the right hon. Gentleman would go a great deal further than he had already done, so that the public confidence in the Department might be restored.

MR. HANBURY: I do not think I need go into the earlier history of this case; I may start with the day on which the telegram was handed in at the Westport post office, and not delivered in Dublin. With regard to the facts there is no dispute between the hon. Gentleman opposite and myself. It is admitted that this telegram was handed in at Westport, and it is also beyond dispute that there is no record of its having been received at Dublin. The hon. Gentleman has given a fair version of my answer to the question put to me by the hon. Member for East Mayo with reference to this case, and he has rather criticised that reply as if I had tried in some way to shirk answering the question in principle, but merely followed its exact wording. Let me assure him that that certainly was not my intention.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR: May I interpose? That was not so. If I gave that impression it was not what I meant to convey. When I referred to the question whether Sergeant Sullivan was in Westport when the message was handed in, the point I laid stress upon was that the right hon. Gentleman said Sullivan was not in Westport on the day the telegram was handed in—which was quite true—but he did not take notice of the fact that he was in Westport the night before.

MR. HANBURY: Then, again, I can assure the hon. Gentleman that, in my opinion, and I may venture to say also in the opinion of the Postmaster-General, the suppression of a telegram is a very serious Post Office offence. I do not care who may have sent the message, or what the politics of the sender may have been, he had a perfect right to have that message respected and treated with confidence, and delivered in Dublin. Therefore, I hope the hon. Member will not believe for a single moment that there is any idea of party feeling on the part of anybody connected with the Post Office, or that the politics or feelings of the sender of the message had anything to do with its non-delivery. The man who

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neglects to forward a telegraphic message which has been put into his hands is a great offender against the Post Office laws and regulations, no matter who may be the sender of the message, and I am quite sure the Post Office are most anxious to find out where the fault lies in this case. I was asked a question as to whether Sergeant Sullivan was known to have been in Westport at the time the message was handed in. The postmaster at Westport had no information regarding him, and stated most positively that it would be quite impossible for anybody to have entered the post office and prevented in any way the transmission of the message. I was asked whether it was possible to have a sworn inquiry in regard to this. That is entirely outside the power of the Postmaster-General. He has no power to order a sworn inquiry. But I fully agree with the hon. Gentleman opposite that the most rigid investigation ought to be made into the facts of this case, and when I replied to the hon. Member for East Mayo I went so far as to ask him to give the Post Office and myself any information in his possession which would throw light on the true facts of the case. No information has been forthcoming until to-day, and I am bound to say that if what the hon. Member says in his speech is correct there is, for the first time, brought forward some evidence which I think is of considerable importance. He has not only named the Post Office official to whom this telegram was handed in, but he has told us that this particular Post Office official was not only seen in the company of Sergeant Sullivan on the preceding evening, but that he was also, as I understood the hon. Member, lodging in the same house. That is very important evidence, and I can promise, on the part of the Post Office, that there shall be, and there ought to be, the fullest investigation with regard to it. It is perfectly monstrous that such a thing should happen. The Post Office is a public Department, bound to do its duty irrespective of politics, and when any message is handed in to it, it is bound to see that the message is duly delivered. If any of its servants fail to carry out their duty in that respect, or if telegrams are suppressed, the Post Office is bound to find out where the fault lies, and punish the officials who so grossly neglect their duty. The Post Office ought to be obliged to anybody who, when a case of the kind happens, will give information which will enable the persons at fault to be detected. As I have said, up to to-day, no such information has been forthcoming. The Postmaster-General is not in a position to order a sworn inquiry; he is practically only able to get such information as may be placed at his disposal by those possessing the information. It is very difficult without a sworn inquiry to get any such information, and I am obliged to the hon. Member for that which he has given us to-night. I will undertake for myself and promise for the Post Office that, having this clue afforded by the hon. Gentleman, every inquiry shall be made, and if the offence can be traced home to anybody, the Post Office will do its duty to the public, and punish that servant for what I consider to be a gross breach of duty.

Mr. PIRIE (Aberdeen, North): I desire to allude to a topic connected with the Army to which I have always attached a great deal of importance, viz., the extreme youth at which we obtain most of our soldiers. I think if the House will look into this matter of enlistment they cannot but admit that on the classes who give their sons to our Army a great fraud and a great cruelty are very often inflicted. The present system lays down the age at which recruits can join the Army as eighteen years, which is already two or three years younger than in any other foreign army. Instances have been repeatedly brought out by Members of this House proving conclusively that this age is nothing more nor less than a merely nominal age. There was a recent experiment to verify the ages of 18,000 men in the British Army, and 45 per cent. were unable to be verified, 15 per cent. were doubtful, so that practically out of those 18,000, 9,000 were unable to stand verification. This proves conclusively that these men had some reason to represent themselves as older than they really were. If it were really desired to obtain satisfactory proof of age you ought at least to hold out some threat of punishment to a recruit for giving a wrong age; but the very reverse is the case in the Army. The new

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system which has come into force with regard to the age of recruits, instead of providing a punishment for the falsification of age offers an additional incentive to the recruit to make himself out older than he really is, for the simple reason that at nineteen years of age if he proves himself to the satisfaction of the medical officer he gets an increase of 3d. per day. Therefore the system is becoming worse rather than better, and that is why I am so anxious to induce the authorities to seriously consider the matter, and if possible put a stop to it. I do not approach this matter as a purist. I have had a good deal of experience, and no one can expect boys who become soldiers to be able to withstand the temptations and keep clear of the vices and evils which present themselves in all garrison towns. It is quite soon enough for a soldier to become acquainted with those things when he is a man, and he should not be exposed to them while he is yet a boy. That is why I say the present system inflicts a cruel wrong. There are two courses open, either of which would meet my views. I say you should verify all ages and make the nominal age of eighteen a reality. The Under Secretary of State for War has often said it is impossible to obtain the correct ages of recruits. I cannot see the difficulty. The age of every workman in the Government arsenals and dockyards is ascertained without difficulty, and when an old age pension scheme comes into force, ages will have to be very accurately determined. A stop should be put to the practice of bringing undue influence to bear on school boys of fifteen or sixteen, and inducing them to enter the Army against their parents' wish; while the close alliance which is so prevalent between the public-house and recruiting should be brought to an end. The next course is to take the boys as you have been doing, verify their ages, but treat them as boys, and remember that you make yourselves responsible for these lads' lives when you enlist them in the Army. I believe the great secret of the difference between the Navy and the Army, of the better reputation of the Navy, and the hold it has upon the confidence of the working classes, is found in the fact that you take the boys for the Navy as boys, and treat them as such. They have different hours from the able-bodied seamen; they are not allowed to smoke or drink or go on shore at night until they reach an age at which they may be called able-bodied seamen. Every boy has to have the written consent of his parent, and to satisfy the authorities that he has a decent moral character. If a similar system were followed in the Army I should be perfectly content, and I feel quite confident you would very soon have a very different state of affairs in the Army. Barrack-room life is bad enough for men, but when boys are exposed to it, it means the demoralisation and ruin of a great many lives. There is also this point. You send these boys out to India at the nominal age of twenty, but the false age continues all through the service. The Under Secretary of State told me that the boys, before they go to India, undergo a very strict medical examination. What is the value of this medical examination when 9,000 out of 18,000 are wrong as to age? The system is telling on the Army in the most injurious way, and is going from bad to worse. In 1898 there were 2,000 discharged out of the Army for bad conduct—a number which has only twice been exceeded in the last twenty years. In 1898 there were 482 more courts-martial than in 1897; the number of minor punishments was higher than in any of the previous ten years, and there were over 4,100 desertions. Can that be said to be satisfactory? Can we rest content with a system which yields such results as those? We ought to strain every nerve until we get a system which gives more satisfactory results. If our Army system was a sound one, the greatest punishment should be to dismiss a man, just as in the Irish Constabulary the highest punishment a man can suffer is dismissal; but in the Army a great many men are only too anxious to get dismissed. The Government may say that the adoption of my principle would mean shortness of numbers, and therefore they are deterred from following my advice. I think that is a misconception. You will never improve the Army until you do something to induce competition to get into the Army. If you restrict the entrance to the Army you will increase its popularity. The impression prevails amongst the classes who provide our recruits that a large proportion of our permanent casuals are ex-soldiers. I do not say the impression is well founded, but until you eradicate that idea you will never get the

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parents as anxious as they should be that their sons should go into the Army. I am only pleading for truth and straightforwardness on this question, and I do not believe that by doing wrong, as you are at present, you can ever get a satisfactory or right result. Another excuse put forward to prevent my suggestion being adopted is that of expense. On that I would merely ask the House to remember that if my advice were followed, the expenditure on both hospitals and prisons must be greatly reduced. The Inspector-General of Prisons, and the Chaplain of the Forces, bear out that view. I trust that during the recess the War Office will really give this matter serious attention, or public opinion will force them in the long run to bring about a change. There is one other matter I wish to refer to, and that is the Return which was printed the other day regarding commissions from the ranks. I do not think any greater inducement to enlist could be held out than the prospect of a commission, but according to this Return the percentage of commissions from the ranks has shown a steady diminution, having fallen in ten years from 6·5 to 1·9 last year. In other words, had the percentage of ten years ago been kept up, instead of fifteen commissions from the ranks, as was the case last year, no less than fifty would have been given. I think when we are reduced to talking of conscription, we ought at least to increase instead of lessen the inducements offered to men to join the Army.

*SIR J. COLOMB (Great Yarmouth): We must all agree as to the necessity of maintaining the efficiency of the Army, and if the necessary number of soldiers in the ranks is to be obtained something very much more serious in the way of expenditure on the Army will have to be incurred. But before we talk of conscription we have got to be very sure that in some department of the War Office you are not wasting money. By this Bill we are going to appropriate £87,000,000, of which sum £48,500,000 are for Army and Navy effective purposes. That is quite exclusive of the £1,000,000 given the other day offhand for defence works to be put up we know not where, and of the large loans of naval works of which everybody must approve. In 1871 the amount appropriated for Imperial defence was altogether only £26,250,000, so that in twenty-eight years since the inauguration of a new defence policy your annual expenditure has jumped up by £22,250,000, or an increase of 90 per cent. The most striking fact, when you look below the surface, of these figures is that, as far as the Navy goes, you have been forced by your geographical position and by the action of other nations to keep up a certain standard. That accounts for the increase in the Fleet, and you can count exactly whether you have your money's worth for that increase. But when you turn to the War Office you can do no such thing. In spite of all the wordy explanations of the representatives of the War Office, you are still in utter confusion as to how it is that while the War Office expenditure has increased, there are less, rather than more, men to put into the field. I think the cause of that is that the War Office have got the idea that the more the power of the Fleet is increased the more military defence works are necessary; that means that in the War Office view the greater the power of the Fleet the more liable are your ports to attack. There is no other construction to be placed upon it, and certainly some examination is required when it is remembered that the country has to pay for it, and that the expenditure is so much taken from the money that would otherwise be available for increasing the attractions to recruits. Whenever this has been mentioned to the Under Secretary of State the reply has been that the expenditure on works and garrisons is forced upon the War Office by the Navy. That is their excuse, but I want to know why if that contention be true they cannot say to the Navy, "Very well, if you want these things you must pay for them"? I contend that it is not accurate to say that this policy of ever-increasing armaments has been forced upon you by the naval authority. This policy did not originate at the Admiralty, but in plans proposed in 1888 by the Engineers' Department of the War Office, and, those plans having been prepared, a confidential committee was appointed to approve and ratify those plans so as to induce the House of Commons to vote the money. The report of that Committee is a very re-

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markable document and was not laid down by the Admiralty at all. If my hon. friend will look at that Report he will see that the whole proposal as regards this expenditure rested upon an assumption, the assumption being that certain forts were liable to be attacked by great squadrons—that Malta was liable to be attacked by a squadron and a large expeditionary force, and that your commercial ports would be liable to the attack of two cruisers and so many small craft. When the matter was under discussion, I asked Mr. Stanhope a question which elicited a very remarkable answer. These were all naval assumptions; and I asked him whether the Committee inquired into the strength and composition of the war fleets and the distribution of the military ports of Continental Powers, and into the sufficiency of our war fleet to carry out in the event of war the traditional naval policy of England, that the prompt assertion of naval superiority over the enemy's ports is the most effectual means of securing the safety of our own. The answer was that this Committee had nothing whatever to do with questions affecting the Fleet! The whole policy of this expenditure on armaments rests on a naval assumption, and yet we have the authority of the Secretary of State for War himself that that naval assumption was not founded on any inquiry with regard to fleets! When we look at the ever-increasing expenditure on this head I think it is time to make, and to keep making, a protest against it. But the cost of works and armaments is not the only expense. Does the Under Secretary of State realise what this policy means as regards the increase of the salaries? In 1889, under the head of "Salaries and Allowances to Royal Engineers for Works and Buildings," the expenditure was £90,000, this year it has grown to £126,000. That increase represents what might have been sixpence a day for 4,000 men. I cannot imagine that it is justifiable in the face of all the known facts to go on piling up this expenditure on works, armaments and garrisons, and reducing the mobility of your Army to a fixed force cowering behind works. But the War Office are so determined that the officers who design these works should have a free hand, that they have now commenced an entirely new policy. The two new naval stations that have been established are now under the command of Royal Engineers, and I see it stated that the Gibraltar command is to go to a Royal Engineer. Could anything be more unsound than the policy of putting those who have the recommendation of expenditure without any check at those very places? It is a false policy, and ought to be stopped. I have shown that the increase of military and naval expenditure since 1871 has been 90 per cent. In the same period your trade has increased by only 34 per cent. and your revenue by only 38 per cent. That policy cannot possibly continue. You must proceed with the naval and military necessities of the Empire, but you cannot go on piling up naval and military expenditure when your trade and your revenue are not keeping pace with it. We all want to preserve our Empire, but what are we going to do with regard to organising that Empire to bear this ever-increasing burden? Have we advanced in that matter in any appreciable degree since 1871? Has the United Kingdom got any substantial relief from the growing wealth and resources of the Empire outside? Can any Minister get up and show me that there is a real attempt being made to grapple with this question? I do not think he can; but it is time he could, because while we have been increasing our expenditure for the military and naval necessities of the Empire by 90 per cent., the revenue of the self-governing colonies has increased by 185 per cent., and their trade also has enormously increased by 116 per cent. The aggregate revenue of your outlying Empire is now close upon £50,000,000, and yet you are bearing the whole of this ever-increasing Imperial burden. It is no good talking about the greatness of our Empire. Recollect the responsibilities of the Empire, and that those responsibilities cannot be for ever borne by that portion of the Empire the population of which is increasing beyond the increase of trade and beyond the ratio of increase of revenue. As the Appropriation Bill is the only occasion when one can deal with the whole matter in its Imperial aspect, the House will forgive me for trespassing upon its time.

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THE UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE FOR WAR (Mr. WYNDHAM, Dover) said that on those wider questions which governed the whole policy of the War Office in its relations with the Admiralty he had had his say during the session, and he could not at that eleventh hour either adduce more facts or find fresh arguments which would convince the hon. and gallant Member. He had spoken of troops "cowering behind works," but the House should recollect that out of 153 battalions only seventeen and a half were at present stationed at garrisons as distinct from forces in occupation. To take one example, there were in South Africa in respect of naval stations two battalions, and everything else was on the same scale. Could the hon. and gallant Member convince the country that there should be less than two battalions there?

*SIR J. COLOMB: I think the Cape ought to pay for them.

MR. WYNDHAM contended that that was another question altogether. The hon. Member for North Aberdeen had raised the question of recruiting, but the standard on which the hon. Member insisted was so rigid that he (the speaker) would under it be ineligible to be a recruit for the British Army, because he really could not say in which church he was baptized, and the only documentary evidence of his age that he could produce at a moment's notice would be the paragraph in "Dodd's Parliamentary Companion." As to verifying the attestation papers, in the recent examination of 18,000 soldiers, it was found there were a very large number of men of the same name born in the same town in the same year. The hon Member also ridiculed the idea of the medical examination with a view to the verification of age; but he (the speaker) defied him to arrive at a better result under the circumstances. With regard to the number of commissions given to men from the ranks, the Return was asked for in such a shape as to be bound to support the conclusion at which the hon. Member had arrived. To give the percentage of commissions given to men raised from the ranks as compared with all the commissions given in one year was most fallacious. The number of men raised from the ranks was very small, and therefore more variable than a large number. It depended greatly on the number of non-commissioned officers who were eligible for that distinction. If all the tables in the Return were studied and analysed, it would be seen that the explanation of the decreased percentage was that many more commissions were given now, because of the colonial forces, the army in Egypt, and the addition of nine battalions to the Army, and therefore, naturally, when 700 or 800 commissions were given instead of 550, the proportion of rankers to those from Sandhurst or the universities was very much smaller. It was true that in 1885 a great number of commissions were given to men from the ranks, but the reason of that was that in that year the country was engaged in two campaigns in which solely British forces were employed. The War Office were most anxious to give commissions to all non-commissioned officers who, in the opinion of their advisers, were likely to emulate such great public servants as Sir Hector MacDonald, or even to fulfil their avocations on a lowlier but no less useful level.

MR. PIRIE explained that it was perfectly clear from the Return that the number of commissions to men from the ranks was forty-one in 1888, and only nine last year and fourteen the year before.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill read a second time, and committed for to-morrow.

In pursuance of the Order of the House of the 17th day of July last, Mr. Speaker adjourned the House without Question put.

Adjourned accordingly at half-past Twelve of the clock.

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HOUSE OF LORDS.

Tuesday, 8th August 1899.

RETURNS, REPORTS, ETC.

VENEZUELA (1899) (BOUNDARY BETWEEN BRITISH GUIANA AND VENEZUELA)

No. 1. Case presented on the part of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty to the Tribunal of Arbitration constituted under Article I. of the Treaty concluded at Washington on the 2nd February 1897 between Her Britannic Majesty and the United States of Venezuela.

No. 2. Counter Case presented on the part of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty to the Tribunal of Arbitration constituted under Article I. of the Treaty concluded at Washington on the 2nd February 1897 between Her Britannic Majesty and the United States of Venezuela.

No. 3. Argument presented on the part of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty to the Tribunal of Arbitration constituted under Article I. of the Treaty concluded at Washington on the 2nd February 1897 between Her Britannic Majesty and the United States of Venezuela.

ARMY.

General Annual Return of the British Army for 1898; with Abstracts, etc.

NATIONAL GALLERY OF IRELAND.

Report of the director of the National Gallery of Ireland to the Board of Governors and Guardians, for the year 1898.

PUBLIC WORKS (IRELAND).

Sixty-seventh Report of Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland, with Appendices, for the year ended 31st March, 1899.

INLAND REVENUE.

Forty-second Report of the Commissioner of Her Majesty's Inland Revenue, for the year ended 31st March, 1899.

POST OFFICE.

Forty-fifth Report of the Postmaster-General on the Post Office.

CUSTOMS.

Forty-third Report of the Commissioners of Customs.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

1. General Report to the Board of Trade upon the accidents that have occurred on the railways of the United Kingdom during the year 1898.

2. Returns of accidents and casualties as reported to the Board of Trade by the several railway companies in the United Kingdom during the six months ended 30th June, 1899; in pursuance of the Regulation of Railways Act (1871), 34th and 35th Victoria, chap. 78; together with reports of the inspecting officers of the Railway Department to the Board of Trade upon certain accidents which were inquired into.

BOILER EXPLOSIONS.

Report to the Secretary of the Board of Trade upon the working of the Boiler Explosions Acts, 1882 and 1890; with Appendices (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper [C. 8994]).

MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT, 1894.

Return of all British ships ordered by the Board of Trade or its officers, during the period from 1st July, 1898 to 30th June, 1899, to be provisionally detained as unsafe by reason of the defective condition of their hull equipments, or machinery, or by reason of overloading or improper loading, in pursuance of the provisions of Section 459 of the Act, giving the names of the owners of those ships which have been dismantled, broken up, or converted into hulks, &c.; also of all foreign ships ordered to be provisionally detained during the same period as unsafe by reason of overloading or improper loading, in pursuance of the provisions of Section 462 of the same Act; together with summaries showing respectively the total number of ships ordered to be detained as unsafe, from 1st July, 1898, to 30th June, 1899, and since the 1st October, 1876, distinguishing between those cases in which the

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ships were found safe or unsafe (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper [C. 8947.]

BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES (SCOTLAND).

Forty-third Detailed Annual Report of the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths, and Marriages in Scotland (Abstracts of 1897).

HORSE-BREEDING.

Seventh Report of the Royal Commission on Horse-breeding.

COMMERCIAL, No. 5, 1899.

Despatch from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Berlin, transmitting notification from German *Imperial Gazette*, regulating commercial relations with the British Empire.

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS (IRELAND).

I. General Abstracts showing the acreage under crops, also the number and description of live stock in each county and province, for 1898-99.

II. Tables showing the extent, in statute acres, and the produce of the crops, for the year 1899.

III. (Migratory Labourers.) Report and tables relating to migratory agricultural labourers, for the year 1899.

MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, AND DEATHS (IRELAND).

Thirty-fifth Annual Report of the Registrar-General, for the year 1898.

CRIMINAL AND JUDICIAL STATISTICS (IRELAND).

Part I. Criminal Statistics for the year 1896.

Part I. Criminal Statistics for the year 1897.

Part II. Civil Statistics for the year 1898.

Presented (by Command), and ordered to lie on the Table.

SUPERANNUATION ACT, 1887.

Return for the year ended 31st March, 1899, of the Army and Navy officers permitted under Rule 2 of the regulations drawn up under Section 6 of the Act to hold civil employment of profit under public Departments.

SUPERANNUATION.

Treasury Minutes, dated 1st August, 1899, declaring that Thomas Cooper, postman, Scarborough, in the service of the Post Office, and James Darby, labourer, Royal Laboratory, War Office, were appointed without civil service certificates through inadvertence on the part of the heads of their Departments.

CLERGY (WEST INDIES).

Return of the amount payable on 5th January, 1899, out of the Consolidated Fund for ecclesiastical purposes in the West Indies.

LOCAL TAXATION RETURNS (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1881.

Annual Local Taxation (Scotland) Returns for the year 1897-98.

MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS.

Charters of Incorporation of the boroughs of Abergavenny, Bridlington, Dukinfield, and Leigh, dated 2nd August, 1899.

IRISH LAND COMMISSION (PURCHASE OF LAND (IRELAND) ACT, 1891).

Return of Advances under the Act during the year ended the 31st March, 1899.

FORESHORES.

Treasury Minute directing the application of moneys received by the Board of Trade in the year ended 31st March 1899 in respect of the rights and interests of the Crown in the foreshores of the United Kingdom.

POST OFFICE (TELEGRAPHS).

Telephone Regulations dated 31st July, 1899.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1888.

Part I. Orders under Section 57 of the Act, as confirmed by the Local Government Board, of the following County and County Borough Councils :—

1. Bucks, for constituting the Parishes of Chartridge and Latimer from the Parish of Chesham, and transferring the same from the Urban District of Chesham to the Rural District of Amersham.

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2. Derby, for transferring the Rural Parish of Codnor-cum-Loscoe to the Urban District of Heanor.
3. Derby and Nottingham, and Nottingham County Borough, for uniting the Parishes of Basford, Bulwell, North Wilford, and Nottingham to form the Parish of Nottingham.
4. Devon, for transferring part of the Parish of Salcombe Regis from the Honiton Rural District to the Parish and Urban District of Sidmouth.
5. Durham, for transferring part of the Urban District of Annfield Plain to the Parish and Urban District of Tanfield.
6. Essex, for the conversion of the Parish of Brentwood into the Brentwood Urban District.
7. Essex, for transferring certain areas from the Parish of Wanstead to the Parish of Woodford, and transferring certain areas from the Parish of Woodford to the Parish of Wanstead.
8. Lancaster, for constituting the Parish of Heysham an Urban District.
9. Lancaster, for altering the name of the Township of Tottington Lower End to Tottington, and constituting the new Township an Urban District.
10. Lancaster, for transferring part of the Township of Wheelton to the Township and Urban District of Whitnell.
11. Nottingham, for uniting the Parish of Park Leys to the Parish of Kelham.
12. Somerset, for dividing the Parish of Ilminster into the two separate Parishes of Ilminster and Ilminster Without, and constituting the new Parish of Ilminster an Urban District.
13. Southampton, for adding a part of the Parish of Bishopstoke to the Eastleigh Urban District.
14. Surrey, for constituting the Parish of Caterham an Urban District.
15. East Sussex, for uniting the Parish of Norway to the Parish of Eastbourne.
16. Wilts, for uniting the Parishes of Cricklade Saint Mary and Cricklade Saint Sampson to form the Parish of Cricklade.
17. North Riding of Yorkshire, for (i.) dividing the Parish of Kirkleatham into the Parishes of Coatham and Kirkleatham; (ii.) transferring the new parish of Kirkleatham to the Guisborough Rural District; and (iii.) adding the new Parish of Coatham to the area of the Redcar Urban District.
18. West Riding of Yorkshire, for constituting the Townships of Outwood and Stanley an Urban District.

Part II. Orders under Section 59 of the Act as confirmed by the Local Government Board of the following County Councils:

1. Derby, for amending the County of Derby (Heanor Urban District Extension) Confirmation Order, 1899.
2. Hertford, for altering the County of Hertford (Rickmansworth) Confirmation Order, 1899.
3. Surrey, for altering the County of Surrey (Caterham Urban District) Confirmation Order, 1889.
4. Surrey, for amending the County of Surrey (Reigate) Confirmation Order, 1894.
5. West Riding of Yorkshire, for amending the West Riding of Yorkshire (Bingley, &c.) Confirmation Order, 1898.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACT, 1890.

Statements of modification permitted by the Local Government Board in the following Improvement Schemes under Part I. of the Act—

1. Portsmouth Improvement Scheme, 1894.
2. Salford Improvement Scheme, 1891.
3. Sunderland Improvement Scheme, 1894.

Laid before the House (pursuant to Act), and ordered to lie on the Table.

HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE (CHANCERY DIVISION).

Her Majesty's answer to the Address of the 3rd instant *delivered* by the Captain

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of the Yeomen of the Queen's Guard (*E. Waldegrave*), and read as follows, viz. :—

I have received your Address praying that, in pursuance of the eighteenth section of the Appellate Jurisdiction Act, 1876, an additional Judge may be appointed to the High Court of Justice in the Chancery Division thereof, and I will issue directions in accordance with your desire.

AGRICULTURE AND TECHNICAL INSTRUCTION (IRELAND) BILL.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS BILL.

SMALL HOUSES (ACQUISITION OF OWNERSHIP) BILL.

Returned from the Commons with the Amendments agreed to.

PRIVATE LEGISLATION PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) BILL.

Returned from the Commons with the Amendments agreed to, with an Amendment. The said Amendment considered (on motion), and agreed to.

COTTAGE HOMES BILL (No. 215).

METROPOLITAN GAS COMPANIES (No. 216).

AGED DESERVING POOR (No. 217).

Reports, etc. of the Select Committees of the House of Commons: Communicated pursuant to message of the 4th instant; and to be printed.

QUESTIONS.

IRISH LAND COMMISSION.

VISCOUNT TEMPLETOWN: My Lords, I beg to ask Her Majesty's Government (1) whether their attention has been called to the statements made by Mr. W. F. Bailey as to his practice in fixing fair rents, as reported in the *Belfast Newsletter* of 12th May, and the *Daily Express* of 26th May; (2) whether his statements have the combined effect of saying that he considered he had jurisdiction to fix the actual fair rent, but that it had long been the practice of himself and his colleagues not to raise any rent unless the landlord had served a notice demanding an increase of rent; and that consequently there were many cases in which judicial rents had been fixed below what he and his colleagues believed would have been fair rents; (3) whether Her Majesty's Government and the Irish Land Commission admit that the practice of Mr. Bailey and his colleagues is in accordance with the law; and, if not, whether any (and what) steps have been taken to instruct Mr. Bailey and the other Sub-Commissioners as to the legal practice in such cases; and (4) whether Mr. Bailey will be asked to furnish a list of the cases in which he admits that rents which were less than fair rents were judicially fixed by him or his colleagues; and whether the Land Commission in such cases will give the landlords an opportunity of having their cases reheard.

THE EARL OF DENBIGH: My Lords, I think it is unfortunate that the noble Viscount, if he desired information on this subject, did not ask his question earlier. I would call his attention to the fact that his question is based on reports which appeared in the newspapers so far back as the 12th and 26th of May last, and that the annual vacation of the Sub-Commissioners commenced on July 29th. Mr. Bailey, the Legal Assistant-Commissioner, who is referred to in the noble Viscount's question, is absent from the United Kingdom, and his address is not known; and, even if the Land Commissioners considered such a course proper, it would not be possible in the time named to ascertain from him whether the newspapers referred to have correctly reported his statement in the particular cases mentioned. As to the third question, whether Her Majesty's Government admit that the practice of Mr. Bailey is in accordance with the law, I would again remind the noble Viscount that it is not possible for the Executive to interpret the law.

VISCOUNT TEMPLETOWN: I agree with the noble Earl that the matter ought to have been brought up earlier, but I think it is due to your Lordships to say that I placed the question on the Paper as soon after I was asked to do so as possible.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

Standing Order No. XXXIX. to be considered To-morrow, in order to its being suspended for that day's sitting.

House adjourned at Twenty-five minutes before Five of the clock, till To-morrow, half-past Eleven of the clock.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Tuesday, 8th August 1899.

RETURNS, REPORTS, &c.

CLERGY (WEST INDIES).

Return [presented 7th August]; to be printed. (No. 345.)

BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES AND VACCINATION (SCOTLAND).

Copy presented,—of Forty-third Detailed Annual Report of the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths, and Marriages in Scotland (Abstracts of 1897) [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

DEER FORESTS, HIGHLAND CROFTING COUNTIES (ARGYLLSHIRE, INVERNESS-SHIRE, ROSS AND CROMARTY, SUTHERLAND, CAITHNESS, AND ORKNEY AND SHETLAND).

Return presented, — relative thereto [ordered 17th March; *Mr. Weir*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 346.)

MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS (SCOTLAND) (REPRODUCTIVE UNDERTAKINGS).

Return presented, — relative thereto [ordered 23rd March; *Sir John Leng*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 347.)

LOCAL TAXATION (SCOTLAND).

Copy presented,—of the Annual Local Taxation Returns (Scotland) for the year 1897-8 [by Act]; to lie upon the Table and to be printed. (No. 348.)

ARMY.

Copy presented,—of General Annual Return of the British Army for the year 1898, with Abstracts, etc. [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

RAILWAYS ACCIDENTS.

Copy presented,—of Returns of Accidents and Casualties as reported to the Board of Trade by the several Railway Companies in the United Kingdom during the six months ending 30th June, 1899, together with Reports of the Inspecting Officers of the Railway Department to the Board of Trade upon certain Accidents which were inquired into [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

RAILWAYS ACCIDENTS (GENERAL REPORT).

Copy presented,—of General Report to the Board of Trade upon the Accidents that have occurred on the Railways of the United Kingdom during the year 1898 [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT, 1894 (VESSELS DETAINED).

Copy presented,—of Return of all Ships ordered by the Board of Trade, or its Officers, to be provisionally detained as unsafe, together with Summaries, etc. [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

BOILER EXPLOSIONS ACTS, 1882 AND 1890.

Copy presented,—of Report to the Secretary of the Board of Trade upon the Working of Boiler Explosions Acts, 1882 and 1890, with Appendices (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper, C. 8994) [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE (INDIAN SECTION).

Return presented,—relative thereto [Address 27th July; *Sir Mancherjee Bhownaggree*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 349.)

MADRAS LAND REVENUE.

Return presented,—relative thereto [Address 31st July; *Sir William Wedderburn*]; to lie upon the Table.

HORSE BREEDING (ROYAL COMMISSION).

Copy presented,—of Seventh Report of the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

RAILWAYS IN IRELAND (STATE ADVANCES).

Return presented, — relative thereto [ordered 9th May; *Mr. Field*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 350.)

CHANNEL ISLANDS (CROWN RIGHTS).

Return presented, — relative thereto [ordered 12th June; *Sir Charles Dilke*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed (No. 351.)

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APPOINTMENTS OPEN TO RETIRED SOLDIERS.

Return presented, — relative thereto [ordered 16th June; *Colonel Long*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 352.)

EXPENDITURE ON CAPITAL ACCOUNT RECENTLY AUTHORISED BY PARLIAMENT.

Return presented, — relative thereto [ordered 4th August; *Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 353.)

IRISH LAND COMMISSION (PURCHASE OF LAND (IRELAND) ACT, 1891).

Copy presented,—of Return of Advances under the Act during the year ended 31st March, 1899 [by Act]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 354.)

POST OFFICE (TELEGRAPHS).

Copy presented,—of Telephone Regulations, dated 31st July, 1899 [by Act]; to lie upon the Table.

FORESHORES.

Copy presented,—of Treasury Minute, dated 7th August, 1899, directing the application of Moneys received by the Board of Trade in the year ended 31st March, 1899, in respect of the rights and interests of the Crown in the Foreshores of the United Kingdom [by Act]; to lie upon the Table.

SUPERANNUATION ACT, 1884.

Copy presented,—of Treasury Minute, dated 1st August, 1899, declaring that Thomas Cooper, Postman, Scarborough, Post Office Department, was appointed without a Civil Service Certificate through inadvertence on the part of the Head of his Department [by Act]; to lie upon the Table.

SUPERANNUATION ACT, 1887.

Copy presented,—of Return for the year ended 31st March, 1899, of the Army and Navy officers permitted, under Rule 2 of the Regulations drawn up under Section 6 of the Act, to hold civil employment of profit under public department [by Act]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 355.)

ISLE OF MAN.

Account presented,—of Revenue and Expenditure for the year ended 31st March, 1899, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor-General thereon [by Act]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 356.)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1888.

Copies presented,—of Orders made by the various County and County Borough Councils in England and Wales under Sections 57 and 59 of the Act, as confirmed by the Local Government Board [by Act]; to lie upon the Table.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACT, 1890.

Copies presented,—of Statements of modification permitted by the Local Government Board in certain Improvement Schemes under Part I. of the Act [by Act]; to lie upon the Table.

COUNTY COURTS (PLAINTS AND SITTINGS).

Return presented,—relative thereto [Address 3rd August—*Mr. Jesse Collings*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 357.)

COLONEL MITCHELL'S PETITION OF RIGHT.

Return presented,—relative thereto [Address 7th August—*Mr. Ernest Gray*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 358.)

MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS (NEW CHARTERS) (LEIGH, LANCASHIRE).

Copy presented,—of Charter of Incorporation of the Borough of Leigh, Lancashire, dated 2nd August, 1899 [by Act]; to lie upon the Table.

MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS (NEW CHARTERS) (DUKINFIELD).

Copy presented,—of Charter of Incorporation of the Borough of Dukinfield, dated 2nd August, 1899 [by Act]; to lie upon the Table.

MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS (NEW CHARTERS) (BRIDLINGTON).

Copy presented,—of Charter of Incorporation of the Borough of Bridlington, dated 2nd August, 1899 [by Act]; to lie upon the Table.

MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS (NEW CHARTERS) (ABERGAVENNY).

Copy presented,—of Charter of Incorporation of the Borough of Abergavenny,

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dated 2nd August 1899 [by Act]; to lie upon the Table.

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS (IRELAND).

Copy presented,—of Tables showing the extent in statute acres, the produce of crops for the year 1899, etc. [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS (IRELAND).

Copy presented,—of General Abstracts showing the acreage under crops, also the number and description of live stock in each County and Province for 1898-9 [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS (IRELAND); (MIGRATORY LABOURERS).

Copy presented,—of Report and Tables relating to Migratory Agricultural Labourers for the year 1899 [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, AND DEATHS (IRELAND).

Copy presented,—of Thirty-fifth Annual Report of the Registrar-General, being for the year 1898 [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

CRIMINAL AND JUDICIAL STATISTICS (IRELAND).

Copy presented,—of Criminal and Judicial Statistics of Ireland for the year 1896. Part I. Criminal Statistics [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

CRIMINAL AND JUDICIAL STATISTICS (IRELAND).

Copy presented,—of Criminal and Judicial Statistics of Ireland for the year 1897. Part I. Criminal Statistics [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

CRIMINAL AND JUDICIAL STATISTICS (IRELAND).

Copy presented,—of Criminal and Judicial Statistics of Ireland for the year 1898. Part II. Civil Statistics [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

COMMERCIAL RELATIONS (GREAT BRITAIN AND GERMANY) (COMMERCIAL, No. 5, 1899).

Copy presented,—of Despatch from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Berlin transmitting Notification from German Imperial Gazette, regulating Commercial Relations with the British Empire [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

VENEZUELA (No. 1, 1899).

Copy presented,—of Case presented on the part of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty to the Tribunal of Arbitration constituted under Article I. of the Treaty concluded at Washington on the 2nd February, 1897, between Her Britannic Majesty and the United States of Venezuela respecting the Settlement of the Boundary between British Guiana and the United States of Venezuela [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

VENEZUELA (No. 2, 1899).

Copy presented,—of Counter Case presented on the part of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty to the Tribunal of Arbitration constituted under Article I. of the Treaty concluded at Washington on the 2nd February 1897, between Her Britannic Majesty and the United States of Venezuela, respecting the settlement of the Boundary between British Guiana and the United States of Venezuela [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

VENEZUELA (No. 3, 1899).

Copy presented,—of Argument presented on the part of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty to the Tribunal of Arbitration constituted under Article I. of the Treaty concluded at Washington on the 2nd February 1897, between Her Britannic Majesty and the United States of Venezuela, respecting the settlement of the Boundary between British Guiana and the United States of Venezuela [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

Return ordered,—"of the names, objects, or business places where business is or was conducted, date of registration, number of persons who signed the Memorandum of Association, total number of shares taken up by such subscribers, nominal capital, number of shares into which it is divided, number of shares taken up, amount of calls made on each share, and the total amount of calls received, of all joint stock companies formed since the 1st day of January, 1898, to the 31st day of December, 1898, inclusive, distinguishing whether the companies are limited or unlimited, and also the number of share-

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holders in each of the said companies at the date of the last Return, and whether still in operation or being wound up;

"Of the total number having their registered offices in the City of London, or within five miles of the General Post Office;

"And of the total number and the paid-up capital of all registered companies which are believed to be carrying on business at the present time."—(*Mr. Ritchie.*)

Return presented accordingly; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 359.)

TITHE RENT-CHARGE (GRANTS TO COUNTIES AND BOROUGHS).

Return ordered,—"showing the share of each of the Adminstrative Counties and County Boroughs of England and Wales in a sum of £87,000, distributed in proportion to the shares which the Local Government Board certified under Section 22 of the Local Government Act, 1888, to have been received during the year ended the 31st day of March 1888, out of the Grants from the Exchequer discontinued after the passing of that Act."—(*Mr. Carvell Williams.*)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (IRELAND) ACT, 1898, AND REGISTRATION (IRELAND) ACT, 1898 (ORDERS AND RULES).

Copies ordered,—"of Orders made by the Lord Lieutenant in Council, and of Orders and Rules, or in certain cases Schedules enumerating Orders and Rules, made by the Local Government Board for Ireland under or in consequence of the provisions of the Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898, and of The Registration (Ireland) Act, 1898; also, of Rules of Court and of County Court Rules made in relation to the said Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898."—(*Mr. Gerald Balfour.*)

Copies presented accordingly; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. [No. 360.]

QUESTIONS.

DEVONPORT DOCKYARD AUTHORITIES AND THE PRESS.

MR. E. J. C. MORTON (Devonport): I beg to ask the First Lord of the Admiralty whether he is aware that representatives of the newspapers published in Devonport and Plymouth are now refused admission to the Devonport Dockyard; whether he is aware that the representatives of these newspapers had enjoyed the privilege of entering the dockyard for thirty years previous to about a year ago; and by what regulation and on what grounds they are now excluded.

THE SECRETARY TO THE ADMIRALTY: (Mr. MACARTNEY, Antrim, S.): The Admiralty have no information on the subject referred to in the hon. Member's question, and there has been no time to make the requisite enquiries.

UNDER AGE RECRUITS.

MR. WILLIAM ABRAHAM (Cork County, N.E.): I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for War if his attention has been directed to the case of Michael Healey, serving in the Provisional Battalion at Shorncliffe, who enlisted in January last, and is under eighteen years of age; and whether he will bring this matter under the notice of the general officer commanding the district with a view to Michael Healey's discharge, to assist in the support of his father (who is in feeble health), mother, and a family of five.

*THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR WAR (Mr. WYNDHAM, Dover): When a soldier makes a false statement of age on enlistment, and is subsequently shown to be under seventeen years of age, he is forthwith discharged. When he is shown to be between seventeen and eighteen the case is left to the discretion of the General Officer commanding, upon the ground that he is best qualified to judge of special circumstances. I cannot, therefore, undertake to make enquiry into the circumstances of such cases.

CARTAGE OF AMMUNITION.

MR. BRYN ROBERTS (Carnarvonshire, Eifion): I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for War whether he has now received information that 1 ton 2 cwt. 3 qr. 22 lb. of live shells were on the 10th of May delivered to Mr. Thomas Roberts, of Aber, Bangor, for cartage by his teams from the station to the Aber Battery, with a carrier's note describing

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them as ordinary stores; and that, in consequence, the filled shells were handed to farm labourers to be carted to the battery without any warning as to the dangerous nature of the goods and the necessity for great care in handling the same; and who is responsible for an error involving so much risk to the public.

*MR. WYNDHAM: A Report has been received from the General Officer commanding the District that the shells referred to were correctly packed and described; but the word "explosives" was accidentally omitted from the Advice Note, which, however, gave a full description of the stores to be moved.

ASSAM.—CULTIVATION AND COLONISATION.

MR. J. H. ROBERTS (Denbighshire, W.): I beg to ask the Secretary of State for India whether out of 6¾ million acres of land capable of cultivation in Assam, not more than 1¾ million acres are under cultivation; whether he will state what was the area of land and what were the main conditions under which it was proposed to offer it for cultivation under the scheme for opening up a large tract of this province recently submitted to the Government of India by the Chief Commissioner of Assam; whether he will further state to what extent and under what conditions the Government of India have seen their way to sanction this experiment; and whether, in view of the pressing importance of finding new outlets for Indian capital and labour, he will present Papers in reference to the question alluded to.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA (Lord G. HAMILTON, Middlesex, Ealing): The areas mentioned in the first clause of this question are, I believe, correctly stated. The Chief Commissioner of Assam has laid certain proposals for the colonisation of that district before the Government of India, who, though not in complete accord with the Chief Commissioner, have agreed to consider any scheme which he may submit for the colonisation of a large tract in Assam on the general lines which he advocated. At present I am not in a position to give any detailed information on the subject, but, if the scheme assumes a practical shape, I shall no doubt receive a communication from the Government of India, and shall then be prepared to consider whether Papers dealing with this question can be presented.

INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAMS.

SIR CHARLES DILKE (Gloucestershire, Forest of Dean): I beg to ask the Secretary of State for India, if it is possible to lay before Parliament any agreements and correspondence between the Government of India on the one side, the Eastern Telegraph Company, the Indo-European Telegraph Company, and the Eastern Extension Australasia and China Telegraph Company, or any of them on the other part, relating to the establishment or subsequent modifications of a joint-purse agreement for dealing with international telegrams and settlement of accounts between the parties to the joint-purse agreement. What is the actual cost at which the Indian Government transmit telegrams over their lines from Karachi to Bushire and Fao. And, what transit rate under the existing joint-purse system the Indian Government would charge over the same portion of their lines for messages to or from England handed to them by any British company not represented in the joint-purse agreement.

LORD G. HAMILTON: It would be necessary to obtain the consent of several companies mentioned before the agreements referring to the joint-purse arrangements could be made public, and I am therefore at present unable to undertake to lay Papers on the Table. The transit rates over the Indian Government cables between Karachi and Bushire or Fao are as follows:—On messages exchanged with India—between Karachi and Bushire 1·455f.; between Karachi and Fao, 1·905f. on messages exchanged with countries beyond India—between Karachi and Bushire, 1·09f.; between Karachi and Fao, 1·39f. These rates are laid down in the International Telegraph Convention, and are the same for all classes of messages, whether handed over by any English company belonging to the joint-purse agreement or by any other company or foreign Government Administration. The rates can only be altered with the consent of the States interested who are parties to the International Convention.

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CABLE COMMUNICATION WITH THE EAST.

SIR CHARLES DILKE: I beg to ask Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer if it is possible to lay before Parliament any agreements and correspondence between Her Majesty's Government on the one side, and the Eastern Extension, Australasia, and China Telegraph Company, and the Great Northern Telegraph Company, on the other side, relating to the submarine telegraph cables which land at Woosung (for Shanghai), Hong Kong, Labuan, Singapore, and Penang.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES (Mr. J. CHAMBERLAIN, Birmingham, W.): Perhaps I may be allowed to answer this for my right hon. friend. The latest agreement—that of 1893—can be laid before Parliament if desired, but the earlier correspondence is not only in part of a confidential nature, but is also very voluminous, and extends over many years. I fear, therefore, that it could not be given.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ACTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

MR. H. J. WILSON (Yorkshire, W.R., Holmfirth): I beg to ask the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether he is aware that girls of twelve and fourteen years of age have undergone examination several times in Cape Town under the Contagious Diseases Acts; whether he can state under what Acts of the Cape Legislature such examinations can be enforced in regard to girls of these ages; whether a magistrate suggested that criminal prosecutions should be instituted against persons who would pass such children; and under what Act, if any, such criminal prosecutions could be instituted.

MR. J. CHAMBERLAIN: The hon. Member has called my attention to a report in a Cape newspaper of a case in which two girls of the ages of twelve and fourteen were charged with soliciting, and it was stated that they had been several times examined at the Lock Hospital. The magistrate is reported to have made the remark quoted in the question. The Contagious Diseases Prevention Act of the Cape Colony (No. 39 of 1885) does not specify any limit of age for persons to be examined. I do not know whether any such prosecution as the magistrate suggested could be instituted.

FOREIGN TELEGRAPHIC RATES.

SIR EDWARD SASSOON (Hythe): I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether, in view of the agitation in this country for a reduction of foreign telegraph rates, Her Majesty's Government would request Her Majesty's Ambassador in Constantinople, Lord Cromer, and Her Majesty's Minister in Teheran, to procure from the Turkish, Egyptian, and Persian Governments, respectively, copies of all concessions granted to, and all agreements made with, either the Eastern Telegraph Company, the Indo-European, or the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company, or the agents of all or any of them, and the Indian Government. I beg further to ask the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether, in view of the efforts now being made for a reduction of Foreign, Colonial, and Indian telegraphic charges, Her Majesty's Government would request Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, Her Majesty's Minister at Teheran, and Lord Cromer to procure from the Turkish, Persian, and Egyptian Governments, respectively, copies of all concessions granted to, and all agreements made with, either the Eastern Telegraph Company, the Indo-European, or the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company, or the agents of all or any of them, and with the Indian Government.

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS (Mr. BRODRICK, Surrey, Guildford): In reply to the two questions of my hon. friend, I have to say that Her Majesty's Government would not feel justified in publishing or in obtaining for publication, as seems to be suggested, from one of the parties without the consent of the other, copies of the arrangements referred to. The arrangements between Her Majesty's Government and Turkey and Persia have already been published.

MUZZLING ORDER IN THE METROPOLIS.

MR. PERKS (Lincolnshire, Louth): I beg to ask the President of the Board of Agriculture whether he can state when the existing Orders for the muzzling of dogs in the Metropolitan area will be modified or repealed; and if he can state the number of persons who have been summoned under these Orders within the Metropolis, and the return to the revenue arising

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from fines and costs imposed upon persons so summoned.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE (Mr. LONG, Liverpool, West Derby): With regard to the withdrawal of the Order to which the hon. Member refers, I cannot add anything to the full statement which I made in reply to the question put to me by my hon. friend the Member for Chelsea on Thursday last. I have been in communication with the Home Office with a view to obtaining the information asked for in the second paragraph of the question, but I find that all that can be stated is that 5,137 persons were proceeded against for offences relating to dogs within the Metropolitan Police District during the year 1897. The returns for the year 1898 are not yet made up, and no information is available as to the amount of the fines and costs imposed.

WALES AND THE LICENSING COMMISSION'S REPORT.

MR. J. H. ROBERTS: I beg to ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether he is aware of the great interest taken by the Welsh-speaking population of Wales in the recently-published Report of the Royal Commission on Liquor Licensing Laws; and whether he will authorise a translation of the Report into the Welsh language, or a translation of those portions of the Report which contain the recommendations together with certain additional necessary matter impartially selected.

*THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE HOME DEPARTMENT (Sir M. WHITE RIDLEY, Lancashire, Blackpool): I have seen the Chairman of the Commission, and after considering the matter carefully, I am afraid I must say that I cannot see my way to adopting the suggestion of the hon. Member. I do not think that portions only of the Report could usefully be translated, nor would any portions be satisfactory without the evidence, and to translate the whole would involve an expense which I should not feel justified in asking the Treasury to allow.

PENSIONS FOR THE AGED DESERVING POOR.

SIR HOWARD VINCENT (Sheffield, Central): I beg to ask the President of the Local Government Board if it is possible to form any approximate estimate of the total annual cost to the country of the proposals of the Select Committee upon the Aged Deserving Poor, or from what source it may be practicable to raise the required millions.

THE SECRETARY TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD (Mr. T. W. RUSSELL, Tyrone, S.): It is only a very few days since the Report of the Select Committee was issued, and I can only refer my hon. friend to paragraph 58 of their Report, in which the views of the Committee are stated upon the question which he puts to me. Nothing has occurred since then to enable me to add anything to the statements they made.

SIR HOWARD VINCENT: May I ask my hon. friend if he will move the President of the Local Government Board to cause the calculations to be made as soon as possible, in order that the country may judge what additional taxation is necessary?

MR. T. W. RUSSELL: That is a question for the President of the Local Government Board.

SIR HOWARD VINCENT: But will my hon. friend move him in the matter?

(No answer was given.)

MR. LEWIS (Flint Boroughs): I beg to ask the First Lord of the Treasury whether a Committee of competent experts will be appointed to inquire during the recess into the number of applicants who would be eligible for pensions, and the cost that the pensions would entail, on the basis of the proposal recommended by the Select Committee on the Aged Deserving Poor.

MR. T. W. RUSSELL: The Government fully intend to examine the statistics connected with this subject during the recess.

GLYCERINATED CALF LYMPH.

MR. LABOUCHERE (Northampton): I beg to ask the President of the Local Government Board whether he has received complaints from public vaccinators with reference to the effect of the glycerinated calf lymph supplied from the

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laboratory of the Local Government Board, and what action he proposes to take in the matter; whether his attention has been called to the decision of the magistrates in Derby, who have dismissed summonses against defaulters under the Vaccination Act in consequence of the prosecutions not having been sanctioned by the guardians; and whether, under these circumstances, he will reconsider his position in respect of the powers of vaccination officers to institute proceedings without this sanction.

MR. T. W. RUSSELL: The Local Government Board have received many statements as to the satisfactory results of the glycerinated calf lymph issued by them, but during the present hot weather there have been some communications as to want of uniformity in the results obtained. There is reason to believe this want of uniformity is largely due to some change which the lymph has recently undergone owing to the great variation between the temperature at which it is kept in the laboratory and that to which it is exposed after issue. The occurrence, which is believed to be temporary only, is receiving very careful investigation with a view to its prevention. My attention has been called to the decision of the Derby magistrates referred to in the second paragraph. The magistrates do not seem to have had before them the circular issued by the Board to the guardians, in which it was explained that the power and the duty of taking such proceedings are vested in the vaccination officer under the Vaccination Acts passed prior to the Act of 1898 without any order of the Board or direction from the guardians, and they appear to have given their decision under a misapprehension. I see no reason for reconsidering the position in respect of the powers of vaccination officers to institute proceedings.

SIR WALTER FOSTER (Derbyshire, Ilkeston): I beg to ask the President of the Local Government Board, whether his Department has been able regularly to meet the demand for glycerinated calf lymph during the past half year; whether the demand has increased from month to month; whether the public vaccinators have been satisfied with the efficacy of the lymph supplied; and, whether he is likely at an early date to be able to supply the lymph for the use of private practitioners.

MR. T. W. RUSSELL: The reply to the first paragraph is in the affirmative. It was originally estimated that a supply of 1,000 tubes of lymph would meet the requirements of public vaccinators, but the demand steadily increased, until in one week it reached 2,287 a day. During the last two months the daily issue has averaged 1,790 a day. I have replied to the third paragraph in the answer I have given to-day to the question put to me by the hon. Member for Northampton. I cannot at present make any promise as to the supply of the lymph for the use of private practitioners.

PARISH COUNCIL EXPENDITURE.

SIR WALTER FOSTER: I beg to ask the President of the Local Government Board, whether the parish of Poulton, in the district of Fylde, Lancashire, has been surcharged as regards expenditure in repairing stiles in connection with a parish footpath; and whether there was any appeal in this case to the Local Government Board; and, if so, whether the case is an exceptional one, or to be taken as an illustration, a policy to disallow similar expenditure by parish councils even for stiles necessary to maintain footpaths in a condition for convenient use by the public.

MR. T. W. RUSSELL: In the case to which I presume the hon. Member refers, the auditor disallowed in the accounts of the parish council the cost of ten wicket-gates placed upon public footpaths. The Local Government Board, on appeal, held that under the circumstances of the case the auditor was not shown to be wrong in his view that the expenditure was illegal. They therefore confirmed the disallowance, but relieved the persons surcharged from the effect of the auditor's decision. As regards the general question, the Board consider that if it is necessary for the public convenience in the use of a public footpath that a stile or gate across the path should be repaired, or that a gate should be substituted for a stile, the parish council may do the work required. If, however, an enlargement of the public rights of way is involved, the Board are advised that the consent of the owner of the soil must be obtained.

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LLANDUDNO FORESHORE—OUTDOOR RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

MR. PERKS: I beg to ask the First Lord of the Treasury whether his attention has been directed to a judgment delivered by Mr. Justice Cozens-Hardy on Wednesday last, concerning the right of public outdoor worship upon the seashore at Llandudno, in which the learned Judge stated that the Llandudno Urban District Council were asserting rights which the Crown would never have thought of putting forward, and which were in no way necessary for the peace and good order of the town of Llandudno and whether, in any future lease of the foreshore of Llandudno, which lease expires in two years' time, and also in any leases of foreshore which may be granted by the Crown elsewhere, clauses may be inserted securing to the public the right of holding religious services if conducted in an orderly manner.

THE SOLICITOR-GENERAL (Sir R. B. FINLAY, Inverness Burghs): Yes, Sir; I have seen a report of the judgment referred to. The attitude of the Crown in any similar case would depend upon the special circumstances. I understand that the Commissioners of Woods, in dealing with future applications for leases, will consider the questions which have been raised by these occurrences.

CHATHAM DOCKYARD.

MR. WOODS (Essex, Walthamstow): I beg to ask the Secretary to the Treasury if he will explain fully to the House the object of the Provisional Order issued from the Admiralty on 12th May by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, and addressed to the superintendent of the Chatham Dockyard, which states that the question of periods of absence without pay of the workpeople is to be taken into account in awarding pensions; that a record is to be kept of the number of days in each year that the workpeople are absent (over twelve days per annum); whether it is proposed to take into account the days lost through sickness, accidents, or days when the yards are closed by order; also the overtime worked as counter-balancing the lost days; whether he is aware that this new Order is causing considerable irritation among the workpeople; and if he will state whether the Order is to be pressed.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY TO THE TREASURY (Mr. HANBURY, Preston): This subject is still under consideration by the Departments concerned, and I am therefore unable to give the hon. Member a definite reply on the points raised in his question.

CENTRAL TELEGRAPH OFFICE STAFF.

MR. STEADMAN (Tower Hamlets, Stepney): I beg to ask the Secretary to the Treasury, as representing the Postmaster-General, whether he is aware that the telegraphists of the K Division, Central Telegraph Office, have their dinner-times greatly delayed through insufficiency of staff; and that the privilege of being allowed two hours off on every fourth Saturday is being withheld for the same reason; and whether the Postmaster-General will take steps to concede to telegraphists the same privileges as other civil servants with respect to the Saturday half-holiday.

MR. HANBURY: There has been very great pressure of business in the Central Telegraph Office, and the Postmaster-General regrets to find that there has been in consequence occasional delay in providing for absence at dinner. Every effort is being made to release the staff for dinner at the times fixed. The indulgence of an occasional short duty on Saturday has also been interfered with to some extent from the same cause; but the staff have no claim to any such concession as of right.

MR. STEADMAN: I beg to ask the Secretary to the Treasury, as representing the Postmaster-General, whether he can state the number of hours' overtime performed by telegraph clerks in the Central Telegraph Office, London, on Saturday, 22nd July; whether the Controller has applied for additional men; and whether, in view of the serious delay of public work owing to insufficiency of staff, steps will be taken to increase it.

MR. HANBURY: 2,541 hours of extra duty were performed in the Central Telegraph office on Saturday, July 22. There was exceptional pressure on that day, caused by the Queen's Prize competition at Bisley and other special events. An addition to the staff has recently been authorised by the Treasury, and the

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question of a further addition is under consideration. The Postmaster-General is not aware, however, of any serious delay having occurred to the public work.

IRISH MAIL SERVICE.

MR ARTHUR MOORE (Londonderry): I beg to ask the Secretary to the Treasury, as representing the Postmaster-General, could he state how often the mails from England have missed the connection at Limerick Junction during the last two weeks; on how many occasions has this been due to the London and North-Western train being late arriving at Holyhead; on how many occasions this delay has been owing to the company attempting to carry a large number of passengers, and duplicating their trains; what powers have the Post Office to compel the company to keep time; and whether they will put these powers in force, and not allow the mail service to be disorganised by the exigencies of transit traffic.

MR. HANBURY: The mails from England have missed the connection at Limerick Junction seven times during the last two weeks. On six of these occasions the failure has been altogether due to the London and North-Western train being late in arriving at Holyhead. On the other occasion there was fog at sea in addition to delay in arriving at Holyhead. On six occasions the delay appears to have been owing to the company duplicating their trains. There are no penalty clauses in the contract, but the Postmaster-General can, in case of a serious breach of the contract, sue the company upon the bond contained in the contract, or put an end to the contract. It is only fair, however, to the company to say that their difficulties arise largely from their having yielded to the pressure brought to bear upon them to carry third class passengers by the Irish mail trains. The duplication of the train appears absolutely necessary if passengers are not to be left behind, and when the train is duplicated, a large amount of delay is unavoidable, owing to the fact that the first train must be unloaded and drawn off the pier at Holyhead before the second train can get alongside the boat.

MEMBERS' CORRESPONDENCE.

SIR HOWARD VINCENT: I beg to ask the Secretary to the Treasury, as representing the Postmaster-General, if instructions can be issued that unpaid correspondence, evidently of a circular nature, addressed to Members of either House of Parliament, may be sent to the Returned Letter Office for disposal instead of being re-addressed and the surcharge collected at the private residences of Peers and Members of the House of Commons.

MR. HANBURY: The Postmaster-General is advised that he has no power to withhold letters from delivery because they are unstamped; but hon. Members are, of course, at liberty to refuse any letter of the kind referred to. If any Member requests that all unpaid correspondence, evidently of a circular nature, addressed to himself at the House, shall not be redirected to his private residence, the Postmaster of the House on receiving such request will act accordingly.

BELMULLET POLICE STATION.

MR. CRILLY (Mayo, N.): I beg to ask the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland if any criminal cases in the locality have come to the knowledge of the police who were drafted, in December last, to form a new police station at Elly Bay, Belmullet; and whether the authorities can now see their way clear to withdraw the police from this new station as being unnecessary for the maintenance of the peace of the locality.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY FOR IRELAND (Mr. G. W. BALFOUR, Leeds, Central): The station was formed for the better protection of life and property, and the fact that no criminal acts have been reported since its formation shows that the main object of this precautionary measure has been attained. The station will be discontinued when the authorities consider it may be dispensed with.

MESSAGE FROM THE LORDS.

That they have agreed to—

PRIVATE LEGISLATION PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) BILL.

Amendments to Amendments to—

DERWENT VALLEY WATER BILL,

and to the Consequential Amendment to the Bill, without Amendment.

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That they communicate Copies of Reports from the Select Committees appointed by their Lordships in the present Session of Parliament on—

1. Companies Bill;
2. Copyright Bill and Copyright (Artistic) Bill;

together with the Proceedings of the Committees and Minutes of Evidence, as desired by this House.

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE.

Resolved, That this House do meet To-morrow at Ten of the clock, a.m.—(*Mr. Secretary Chamberlain.*)

CONSOLIDATED FUND (APPROPRIATION) BILL.

Considered in Committee, and reported, without Amendment; to be read the third time To-morrow.

EAST INDIA REVENUE ACCOUNTS.

Order for Committee read.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair."

*THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA (Lord G. HAMILTON, Middlesex, Ealing): The statement I have to make to-night refers to a triennial period which is one of financial oscillation and contrast, and I think it will be admitted of exceptional interest. A comparison of the figures of the separate years is not only full of financial and statistical interest, but it is a clearer index than any Budget statement I have previously made of the economic and material condition of India under British rule. The first year deals with the closed accounts of 1897-98; this was the last year in which the effects of the great famine disturbed the equilibrium of Indian finance. But famine was not the only disturbing element. Plague, earthquake, and a great frontier disturbance all contributed to diminish the revenue account and to augment the general expenditure of the country. I estimated last year, on the revised figures before me, that the deficit would be Rx. 5,283,100. The closed accounts give a somewhat larger sum — namely, Rx. 5,359,211—the net income being less by Rx. 214,191 and the net expenditure less by Rx. 138,000 than was anticipated. We now know the total cost of the famine of 1896-97 and 1897-98, both direct and indirect, to the revenues of India, and it is estimated to amount to Rx. 16,649,399. This is a somewhat lower estimate than that which I gave in June, 1898, and of this amount no less than Rx. 9,313,987 may be estimated as chargeable in the accounts of the year with which I am dealing. But this was not the only extraordinary charge. Frontier operations cost Rx. 3,887,000, and the cost of combating the plague and the effects of earthquake put on the revenues of that year further charges, all of which fell on the shoulders of this hapless financial year. I appointed, shortly after the conclusion of the famine operations, a Commission, for which I was fortunate enough to secure the services of Sir James Lyall as chairman, to inquire into and report upon the result of the procedure adopted to meet the famine. That report, which was issued at the beginning of this year, showed that, though here and there a mistake had been made, the campaign as a whole against famine was devised and carried through with prescience, with resource, and with success. Yet, notwithstanding all the exertions of the Government, seconded as they were by private effort and voluntary subscriptions, there was very heavy mortality and widespread privation and misery over a vast tract of country affected by the scarcity of food and employment consequent upon the drought and its attendant evils. There are two theories current as to the cause and origin of this distress. There is a small but active body of propagandists who are never tired of complaining that British rule is bleeding India to death; that owing to our system of taxation the people are so reduced in their resources, that independent of any abnormal visitation they are dying off; and that the distress of recent years, culminating in the great famine of 1896-98, was not primarily due to natural causes, but that it is the result of persistent over-taxation and heavy assessment which has so reduced the condition of the mass of the people, and that they are expiring of inanition. There is another school who maintain a wholly contrary opinion. They assert that from time immemorial famine, due to want of rain, has been a regular and periodical scourge of India, and that under our rule, decade by decade, the effects of famine when it occurs are being narrowed and arrested, not

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only by the increased resources of the people assailed, but by a systematic and progressive scheme of famine protection which the British Government has created and is continuously improving. The figures I am about to cite will, I think, conclusively show which of those two theories is right. If it be true that, quite independently of famine, our system of taxation is levied in such a way that the people are so reduced and so near the end of their resources that they are ready to collapse at the first touch of any abnormal visitation, then it is clear their recovery when that visitation was passed would be so slow and their recuperative power so small that for years to come it would be scarcely appreciable. If, on the other hand, it be true that British rule has greatly increased the resources of the community, and that the suffering and failure in revenue of the famine years were entirely due to the exceptional magnitude of the visitation itself, then, so soon as the visitation had passed away, the community at large would at once show signs of recuperation and rapidly make good the losses caused by the abnormal phenomena. If no recuperation is shown, then the bleeding to death theory may have some substance in it; but if the recuperation be immediate, rapid and continuous, then I think even the most perverse of mortals must admit that the theory is based on imagination alone. Now, Sir, let us test the merits of the two theories by turning to the year succeeding the last year of the famine. In March, 1898, Sir James Westland estimated his surplus for the year ending April, 1899, at Rx. 891,000. A few months later, with fuller data before me, I expressed my own view that this figure would be largely exceeded. We have now the revised figures before us, and the surplus has grown to Rx.4,759,400. The first fact I wish to impress on the House is that this is the largest surplus ever realised in India in one year since our rule has been established there; but side by side with this fact there is another, scarcely less significant, to which I have already alluded—namely, that the year which immediately preceded this surplus was the worst famine year of the century. The House will, I am sure, appreciate the significance of this juxtaposition of extreme depression and of exuberant recuperation, for it is the annihilation of the bleeding to death theory. I know statistics are dull, especially at this time of the session, but the figures of this financial year are really so remarkable that they are well worthy of examination and analysis, both on the expenditure and on the revenue side. This surplus is due not only to an augmentation of revenue, but also to a large reduction in expenditure. We took the exchange value of the rupee at 15⅜d. The actual rate at which we were able to sell rupees was 15·978d., or approximately 16d., and this rise in the rate of exchange diminished by Rx. 1,070,600 the amount of rupees which had to be remitted. The rise in exchange is always a satisfaction, but the rise this year was associated with some unusual facts. I had calculated that I should be able to draw, in the course of the year, bills equivalent to £16,000,000 sterling, the rupee being taken at 15⅜d., and a good many thought I was too sanguine. The actual amount I was able to draw was £18,695,200, or £2,695,200 in excess of my estimate. It may be laid down as a general rule that the larger the number of bills drawn in the year the lower becomes the rate of exchange at which the individual rupee is exchangeable; but this year we drew the whole of this larger sum at a higher rate of exchange than that which we assigned to the lesser sum we had calculated on drawing, and the sum remitted for the year is the largest amount ever sent from India, and it has enabled us to reduce our estimated gold liabilities in this country by £2,695,000 in the course of the year. In addition to the reduction of the gold debt here we were able during the year to exchange rupees for gold to the amount of Rx. 2,616,000 in the currency reserve. The next great item on the expenditure side is that connected with the railway and irrigation account. The receipts from both sources of productive works were the largest ever recorded in India, and they improve the railway account by Rx. 848,000 and the irrigation account by Rx. 226,900. There was also a saving on Army expenditure of Rx. 520,800. This was due to the cessation of frontier operations, and there were a number of other minor savings and certain increases under other heads, the aggregate result of which was a total net reduction, independent of

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exchange, on the expenditure side, amounting to Rx. 1,973,000. On the revenue side it is noteworthy that there is an increase under every head of revenue, except for a small falling off in stamps and registration, and the total increase amounts to Rx. 1,658,200. Those who are familiar with Indian finance are aware that there is an elaborate arrangement between the provincial governments and the Imperial Government under which the provincial governments are quinquennially assigned certain portions of certain revenues, and as these revenues increase, so does the amount the provincial governments are entitled to claim increase also. For these and other automatic reasons the provincial governments receive out of the augmented surplus Rx.834,700 more than was anticipated; and if Members of the House will deduct this amount from the gain in revenue and the reduction in expenditure and exchange it will bring the surplus down to the figure I originally gave—namely, Rx.4,759,400. The Government of India, however, having had a successful financial year, naturally took into consideration the exceptionally heavy burden which recently had been laid upon the provincial governments, who have simultaneously had to face increased expenditure with revenues either curtailed or whose expansion had been arrested by the very evils requiring this additional expenditure. The Indian Government, therefore, made them free grants which in the aggregate amount to Rx.700,000, thus bringing down the available surplus to Rx.4,059,400. Then the trade and treasure statistics of this remarkable year are also noteworthy. The exports from India, including treasure, exceed the figure of Rx.120,000,000, being a crore and a half over the highest amount of exports ever before recorded. The imports, including treasure, amount to upwards of Rx.90,000,000, an amount which has only been exceeded in two years. The surplus of exports over imports was, therefore, upwards of Rx.30,000,000, a figure which has only previously been exceeded in three years. The net imports of treasure amounted to Rx.10,484,192, a figure which has often been exceeded, but of that amount no less than Rx.6,500,000 represented gold, the highest amount of gold ever absorbed by India in one year. I quote these figures to the House, first, because I think they are interesting, and, secondly, because they show that from whatever standpoint we view the past year, whether from a financial, a commercial, or an industrial standpoint, the results are far more satisfactory than the most sanguine could have anticipated last year. We have faced and have succeeded in overcoming a great cumulative series of difficulties with far less loss of vitality than I could have believed possible; scars that I feared were indelible are being rapidly obliterated, and if we can only depend on normal phenomena for a few years I think a period of great development and great prosperity will dawn on the great majority of the inhabitants of India. But there is one side to our rule in India which always causes anxiety to the Government of that country, and that is the enormous increase in the population, a growth which is so abnormal that in many districts it presses heavily on the means of subsistence. Some time back I appointed Sir James Lyall's Famine Commission. I thought that in the course of their inquiries and wanderings they would have very special opportunities of examining into the industrial and economic conditions of the populations through whose country the drought had passed; and I thought that a general opinion from a Commission so exceptionally circumstanced, with the traces of the recent disaster displayed before their eyes, would be of the greatest value in enabling us to decide how far during the last twenty years that have elapsed since the last great famine we have improved the material condition of the mass of the people and their powers of offering resistance to exceptional distress. The most important of the conclusions which Sir James Lyall and the Commission arrived at are stated in the last paragraph of his report. It is somewhat lengthy, but I daresay the House will excuse my going into it in view of the importance of the subject. Sir James Lyall says:

"The general conclusions we are disposed to draw are that it may be said of India as a whole that of late years, owing to high prices, there has been a considerable increase in the incomes of the landholding and cultivating classes, and that their standard of comfort and of expenditure has also risen. With a rise in the transfer value of their tenures their credit has also expanded. During the recent famine these classes, as a rule, have therefore shown greater power of resisting famine, either by drawing on savings, or by borrowing, or by reduction of expenditure, than in any previous

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period of scarcity of like severity. Whether it can be safely said that they have much improved in thrift—that is, in the accumulation of capital—seems open to doubt. There is some evidence to the effect that the export trade and the improvement of communications have tended to diminish the custom of storing grain as a protection against failure of harvest, which used to be general among the agricultural classes."

I may here state that the landowing and cultivating classes constitute 57 per cent. of the rural population of India. Sir James then passes on to the artisan class, as to which he says:

"The skilled artisans, excepting weavers, have also greatly improved their incomes and their style of living, and very few of them required relief. The commercial classes, whose numbers are relatively small, are not generally injuriously affected by famines of short duration. Beyond these classes there always has existed, and there does exist, a lower section of the community living a hand-to-mouth existence, with a low standard of comfort and abnormally sensitive to the effects of inferior harvests and calamities of season. This section is very large and includes the great class of day labourers and the least skilled of the artisans. So far as we have been able to form a general opinion upon a difficult question from the evidence we have heard and the statistics placed before us, the wages of these people have not risen in the last twenty years in due proportion to the rise in prices of their necessaries of life. The experience of the recent famine fails to suggest that this section of the community has shown any larger command of resources or any increased power of resistance. Far from contracting, it seems to be gradually widening, particularly in the more congested districts. Its sensitiveness or liability to succumb, instead of diminishing, is possibly becoming more accentuated, as larger and more powerful forces supervene and make their effects felt, where formerly the result was determined by purely local conditions."

It is estimated that the labourers of all sorts constitute 17 per cent. of the rural population, and it is only with a portion of this body that this Report deals. The problem before us is not one to be solved by the reduction of taxation or the cheapening of food. These poor people practically pay no taxes, and food is cheaper in India than in any known civilised country in the world. Even at the height of the late famine prices never rose to a level to make the importation of food into British India, except from Burma, remunerative. We are face to face with the consequences of the long establishment of the *pax Britannica.* India is the most prolific human nursery in the world. We have removed or restrained all the influences by which in the past this prolificness has been counteracted. War and plundering are no longer permitted, and all the energy of modern science and civilisation is devoted to the arresting and stamping out of those epidemic diseases which in the past played such havoc with human life. Sir Robert Giffen the other day estimated that since 1871 the population of British India had increased seventy millions, and that the increase of our territory since that period accounted for but a small part of this increase. It is the one unnatural law of nature that when population rapidly increases, that section in which the increase is quickest is the one nearest to the brink of destitution. I am afraid that this residuum in India is expanding, and will continue rapidly to expand under our rule. We cannot reverse our past humane policy of protection to life, and we must therefore try and see how far we can otherwise ease the new economic and social difficulties we have ourselves created. I see no other solution but in opening up the country by railroads and canals, encouraging private enterprise to develop the native resources of India, and notably the practically untouched mineral wealth of the country, attracting capital from this country to multiply and augment the great stable industries of India, and associating with this policy of industrial development a more technical and utilitarian system of education. Such a policy belongs to the future, and I will therefore turn to the Budget year of 1899-1900, as it is associated with these ideas. For this year—the Budget year—our revenue is estimated at Rx.62,477,000 and the expenditure at Rx.58,544,400, giving a surplus of Rx.3,932,600. The figures of this Budget closely approximate to the revised figures of last year, the aggregate revenue being taken at a reduction of Rx.599,600, and the expenditure also showing a reduction of Rx.472,800. There are also sundry adjustments in the receipts and expenditure of the provincial governments which affect the total, but there is nothing specially noteworthy in the various items of expenditure of the revenue which necessitates my detaining the House, unless it be the estimate of railway receipts. The railway net receipts for the preceding year were exceptionally high; Sir James Westland put them somewhat higher for this year. On the other hand, he took a low rate of exchange for the remittance of rupees—

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namely, 15⅜d. I have recently received further information as to the prospects of the financial year. It is now estimated that the railway revenue will be considerably less than the Budget estimate, but this loss is more than counteracted by the improvement under the principal heads of revenue and by a reduction of frontier expenditure. It is now estimated that the rate of exchange may be taken at 16d. This will give an improvement of more than 40 lakhs. The surplus this year may therefore be taken at Rx.4,400,000. This is the last year for the finance of which Sir James Westland will be responsible. His tenure of office has been one of exceptional anxiety, for he has had to contend with unprecedented difficulties, both as regards exchange and currency; and, in addition, he has had to find the ways and means of simultaneously combating a great frontier outbreak, famine, and plague. He has throughout this trying ordeal shown perspicuity, courage, and judgment of a very high order, and it must be a gratification to him and his friends to know that, when he resigned his responsibilities to his successor, he was able to associate with his retirement the two highest surpluses of the century, and he has also the gratification of knowing, by the approving Report of the Currency Committee, that his efforts for the establishment of a gold standard and currency in India are within measurable distance of being fulfilled. I am glad to add that his services will not be lost to the public, for Her Majesty has approved of his appointment to the vacancy in the Secretary of State's Council. Those interested in India are aware that during the past few days there has been considerable anxiety with regard to the monsoon. I requested the Viceroy to inform me periodically whenever he had reliable and comprehensive information, and the latest telegram I have is dated August 3. It is:

"Crop prospects. Rainfall in Northern India, Bengal and Burma has been above the average, and agricultural prospects are satisfactory. On West Coast, in Central India, and in parts of Madras there has been a keen deficiency of rain, and there is some cause for anxiety, although a heavy rainfall in present month would still arrest serious scarcity."

The latest telegram through the Press announces that rain has fallen in Bombay and other parts of Western India during the last few days. At this time of the year it is absolutely impossible to forecast if the monsoon partially fails what may be the scarcity consequent upon that failure, because the area contracts or expands owing to the accidents of the rainfall with extraordinary rapidity. I am hopeful, as the weather all over the world has been abnormal, that there may be a heavy rainfall this month, but I am afraid that in any case there will be some scarcity. The famine organisation, however, is in excellent order, and I can hardly think that Nature will so fail again as to seriously disturb the financial arrangements of the year. It will be seen that we have not remitted taxation. Independently of the partial failure of the monsoon, we desired to make good the financial losses of the two preceding years; and as we were about to advance another stage in our currency policy we were desirous of occupying during that phase as strong a financial position as was permissible. But in addition to these reasons, sufficient and valid as they are in themselves, there was a further wish to carry on the prosecution of our public works policy with as little addition to our gold debt as is consistent with reasonable progress, and perhaps I might therefore just explain to the House what is the system under which capital is supplied for public works. The practice of the Indian Government is to charge 4 per cent. interest on the whole capital supplied for reproductive public works, and this interest is charged against the railway and irrigation portion of the account. The capital so supplied comes partly from loans, partly from revenue. When it is supplied from revenue the amount so obtained is deducted from the ordinary debt, which, but for this expenditure, would to that extent have been diminished. Under this system the larger the surplus the less the amount borrowed in the year for public works, and we shall for the forthcoming year be able to devote a considerable proportion of the surpluses of the last two years to capital expenditure on public works, thus avoiding borrowing. All sums borrowed for public works by the Government are raised upon the general security of the revenues of India; and though the strictest account is kept of the sums so obtained, they are not earmarked so as to enable any outsider to distinguish between the debt liabilities incurred on

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railways and irrigation, and those incurred for other purposes. Every year in the explanatory memorandum of the Secretary of State, there is a table of assets and liabilities of the Indian Government, and this table will be found at page 10 of my memorandum of this year. The assets include the capital value of the railways and irrigation works constructed, amounts lent, and cash balances. The liabilities include the debt, and other obligations of the Indian Government. For this year our excess of liabilities in Great Britain is estimated at £53,029,000. But in India we have an excess of assets over liabilities to the amount of Rx.32,010,000. Taking the rupee at 16d., this sum is the equivalent of £21,330,000. Therefore the total amount of what I may call the unremunerative debt of India at the present moment only amounts to £31,699,000. I doubt if any other great Government in the world could show so small an amount of indebtedness. The question naturally arises—does our policy of public works annually tend to improve this balance-sheet, and are we better off from this point of view than we were five years or ten years back? I therefore propose to compare the balance-sheet of this year with the balance-sheet of ten years back—namely, the year 1889. The decade since 1889 has been one which has severely tried the finances of India. We have had a heavy fall in the exchange value of the rupee, and we have had all the disturbing influences and elements of war and famine with which to contend in India itself, and therefore it might be assumed, taking these untoward events into consideration, that our balance-sheet at the end of the ten years would be worse than it was at the beginning. But such is not the case. In 1889 there was an excess of liabilities over assets in India of Rx.4,500,000. This at 16d. is equivalent to £3,000,000, and the excess of liabilities over assets in this country was £36,844,000. Adding these two sums together, we get a total liability of £39,844,000, or a balance-sheet £8,200,000 less favourable than that which we can show this year, and if we can only continue for the next thirty years at this rate to annually show such an improvement in our assets, at the end of that period there will be practically no unremunerative debt left. We are, therefore, able gradually to diminish by our public works policy the dead-weight interest charged on borrowed money, and side by side with this annual reduction to show an improving annual balance-sheet. Putting these two facts together seems to me conclusive justification, on financial grounds alone, for a vigorous prosecution of reproductive public works in India. Some three years ago I sanctioned a programme of railway extension amounting to nearly Rx.30,000,000 to be spread over the period named. Owing to financial exigencies and the heavy expenditure connected with famine and frontier operations the Government found it necessary to reduce this amount to Rx.27,600,000. The new three years' railway programme is estimated to cost Rx.20,322,000, but owing to lapses through the engineering strike and other causes in 1898-99, there are arrears to be added to the extent of Rx.2,050,000. The total for the three years is, therefore, raised to Rx.22,372,000, and of this amount Rx.8,822,000 is comprised in the Budget for the present year. This includes all railway construction for which the Government undertakes the responsibility or guarantee, whether on State lines or those of the old companies, or branch lines with a firm guarantee; but it does not include outlay by native States without a guarantee by the Government of India, nor does it include outlay on branch lines to be constructed with conditions of rebate, nor on unguaranteed private enterprise. The House will recollect that in the course of last session I obtained a loan Bill to the amount of £10,000,000, and that at the time the House gave their sanction to that increase in the borrowing powers of the Secretary of State those powers had been reduced to £418,000. The total amount, therefore, of the borrowing powers, which at this time last year was at the disposal of the Secretary of State was £10,418,000, and I proposed, as I informed the House at the outset, to raise a loan of six millions sterling, though I hoped to be able, in the course of the year, to discharge considerable amounts of debentures and other debts which became due. This has been done, and I am glad to be able to inform the House that at the present moment my borrowing powers amount to £9,377,000, or in other words, I have been able to finance the exceptional requirements of the Indian Government and the capital outlay on public works by adding only about one million

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sterling in the course of the year to the obligations of India in this country, leaving out of account the sums raised by the railway companies; and in India, although we estimated that it might be necessary to raise Rx.3,000,000, the cash balances stood so high that the loan was reduced to Rx.1,200,000. For the present year we do not propose to borrow either at home or in India, but we shall try to find ways and means for carrying on public works out of surplus revenues or cash balances. Whether we shall be able to do this or not depends upon the rainfall in Western and Central India, and the failure of the monsoon may alter our plans. The present Viceroy, with whose powers of work and initiation the House is well acquainted, has given close attention to the encouragement of private enterprise in railway construction, so that side by side with Government expenditure railway promotion may be pushed by private individuals and private capital. When his Minister for Public Works came home on leave he took that Department under his own supervision, mainly with the object of ascertaining whether he could not simplify and shorten the existing procedure for dealing with applications from promoters of railways. It is not very easy to so dovetail the prosecution of State railways and railways promoted by private means into one great system of railway progress and expansion. In this House we know how jealous any great railway company is of extensions which might cut into their system and ultimately affect their local profits; and when, in addition, powers of purchase over individual railroads are conferred upon the Government, as is the case in India, the value of the property to be ultimately bought and sold may be considerably influenced by such extensions. It is, therefore, necessary to proceed with great caution and consideration before assent is given to any private enterprise where a railroad to be constructed might have such effects upon the railways in its vicinity. Still, making allowances for all such difficulties, there is room for accelerations and improvement in the procedure now in force for dealing with railway promoters. But it is not only in connection with railways that we wish to encourage private enterprise. The mineral wealth of India has scarcely been touched, with the exception of the working of coal, which is making great strides. I appointed an exceptionally strong committee at the India Office some time back to supervise and amend the existing rules and regulations. These regulations were sent to India, and the Viceroy issued rules, in accordance with the instructions he received, that have given universal satisfaction. What we have done as regards mines is only typical of what we wish to do in connection with the other undeveloped resources of India—encourage the *bonâ fide* promoter and trader, but try to exclude the concessionaire, who looks upon his concession only as something he can sell at a profit to others. Side by side with this material development of India we wish to make the higher branches of education more practical and utilitarian. At present we are annually turning out thousands of young men with a purely literary education, and with no means of employment when their education is finished but to join the overcrowded ranks of the pleader and pressman. But if we wish to secure the thorough co-operation of enterprise and capital from this country in developing India we cannot more effectively achieve that purpose than by establishing a currency system which will closely link together the monetary and the commercial interests of the two countries. And this naturally brings me to the Report of the Currency Committee over which the right hon. Gentleman the Member for East Wolverhampton presided. Sir, the special thanks of this House are due to the right hon. Gentleman and his colleagues for the time and consideration they gave to the complex subject referred to them. And they have their reward in the almost unanimous approval with which it has been received. It is a Report characterised by lucidity of arrangement and language, and a natural sequence of statement, both of fact and argument, that renders it one of the most convincing and easily digested documents that I have ever read upon any currency controversy. The Report is, moreover, on all essential points unanimous, and this unanimity is, I think, due to the composition of the Committee. Sir, there are some persons who think that, whenever a difficult and controversial question is to be investigated by any tribunal of this character, the bulk of the inquiring body should be composed of the extreme partisans on both sides of the question, with a sprinkling of impartial persons to keep the peace between them. Commis-

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sions so constituted invariably result in a minority as well as a majority Report. The whole responsibility for any changes proposed rests upon the shoulders of the limited few who do not take sides. I composed this Committee on the opposite principle. I selected the best men available who had not committed themselves irretrievably to either one side or the other, and whose judicial tendencies were such that they could be trusted to be influenced by the evidence before them. And not the least of the merits of the Report is its self-evident fairness and freedom from bias. It perhaps would be convenient to the House if I were, very briefly, to recapitulate the present condition of currency in India, and contrast it with the proposals of the Committee. At present the mints are closed to the unrestricted coinage of silver; gold is not legal tender, though the Government receive it in favour of public dues. The rupee, by law, is the only coin in which payments can be made, though the Government have declared a rate at which they will exchange rupees for gold—namely, a rupee for 16d. The Committee recommend that the mints should continue to be closed to the unrestricted coinage of silver, but that they should be thrown open to the unrestricted coinage of gold; that gold be made legal tender and current coin; that Government be not bound by law to part with gold for rupees or for external purposes, but that it should be freely available for foreign remittances when foreign exchanges fall below specie point —namely, 16d. Now, Sir, these recommendations, in the aggregate, will result in establishing a currency system in India very similar to that which prevails in the United States and France, and the Committee point out, in paragraph 37, that if the United States and France were ever hereafter to come to the Indian Government with responsible proposals for an international agreement, as they did some two or three years ago, India will be in a better position to consider such proposals than she was before. But, to my mind, the most valuable portion of the Report of the Committee is that in which they clearly prove that the establishment of a gold standard in India is as much for the interests of the Indian people as it is for the Indian Government. Attempts have been made to try and show that, although a gold standard might be beneficial to the Indian Government on account of the large gold obligations they have annually to meet in this country, yet it would be detrimental to the interests of the general community; that India was too poor a country for such an experiment as a gold standard; that it is an exporting country, and that a fall in exchange was beneficial to an export trade; and that if a gold standard was established, India could not hereafter compete with the silver-using countries who export commodities similar to those which India produces. I am glad to say I think the Committee have finally and successfully exploded these fallacies. During the past few years the commercial world has been passing through a period of depression and fall in prices. The general price of commodities had fallen simultaneously with the exchange value of silver; therefore, certain individuals argued that it was the demonetisation of silver which caused the fall in the price of commodities, and that, unless silver was rehabilitated, there could be no hope of prices rising. Argentina was used as a familiar illustration of how a depreciated currency benefited a great exporting country. Argentina is a country with almost unlimited undeveloped agricultural resources. Her Government borrowed largely to develop these resources, but that Government over-borrowed and was unable to pay the interest on its debt. Then, to save their credit, they issued wholesale a mass of paper money which became very heavily depreciated. Almost simultaneously with this heavy depreciation, the result of previous outlay began to take effect and Argentina began to export largely; therefore certain gentlemen argued that this great expansion of exports was due to a depreciating currency. For the last three years the gold premium in Argentina has continuously fallen, and her exports continue, simultaneously with the appreciation of her paper, to expand. The industrious statistician will always find in the commercial world coincidences, synchronisms, and sequences which, if he be not master of his subject, he is apt to confound with cause and effect; but the Committee conclusively demonstrate that the volume of exports from India is not associated with, or governed by, a rise or fall in exchange. I have more than once challenged those who hold different views

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from my own, to show how a depreciating currency benefits the majority of the community amongst whom it circulates. In India our great difficulty is that wages, owing to the increase of population, are in many branches of industry too low. A depreciating currency raises prices, but there is always an interval between the rise of prices and the consequent rise of wages, and during that period the employer gets the benefit. There are no Consular reports on trade more worthy of perusal than those which emanate from the United States Consuls. The Consul-General for the United States at Calcutta, in his official report to his Government, puts the position with a terseness which is my reason for quoting it:—

"From the best information obtainable, the merchants and large dealers in the products of the country would favour the re-opening of the mints, which would enable them to buy silver at the present low prices, have it coined into rupees, and use them in their business greatly to their advantage; and the ryots and wage-earners would be the sufferers, as is always the case in a country with a debased and depreciating currency."

In this country there has been of recent years a general crusade against the practice of what is known as "sweating." Sweating results from unscrupulous employers taking advantage of a congested labour market to establish a system of over-work and under-pay. Let everybody understand who advocates a depreciating currency as a benefit to the community that he is supporting a system of currency that is nothing more or less than a legalised form of sweating. Ceylon is, as regards its currency, its trade, and its exporting power, a miniature of India, excepting that its export trade forms a much larger proportion of its general trade than is the case in India. I have here the latest official Report on the financial and industrial condition of Ceylon. It is dated September 27th, 1898, and it relates to that year, in which the gold value of the rupee rose to a greater extent than has occurred for the last thirty years. According to certain theories this rise in exchange should have had a depressing effect on an island which mainly depends for its prosperity on its exporting power. This is, however, the official Report:

"The progress of the island during the year under review was very marked. The rise in the revenue, amounting to considerably more than Rx. 2,000,000, to use a popular phrase, 'broke all previous records.' This satisfactory increase was in no wise due to increased taxation or any unexpected windfall, but to the general prosperity of the island, the people of which, in the year under review, imported more goods, travelled more, bought more Crown land, ate and drank more, wrote more letters and telegrams, and generally flourished more than in any previous year, to the no small gain of themselves and the Government."

I can say on behalf of myself that I never should have taken the interest that I have taken in this question, or have exerted myself to try to bring about the establishment of a gold standard in India, unless I had satisfied myself that the establishment of such a standard would be one of the most effective instruments by which we could improve the industrial condition of the lowest-paid of the wage-earners of India. The Committee in their Report do not favour the idea of raising a great loan for the purpose of buying gold and thus accelerating the period at which convertibility would be commenced. I admit the strength of some of the objections urged against a policy of borrowing for the acquisition and accumulation of gold, and we are ready to forego for the present any intention of that kind, but subject to this understanding we intend to utilise all our powers and opportunities to push on the currency changes proposed by the Committee through the procedure suggested by the Committee. We hoped, and we still hope, not to borrow this year, but if the failure of crops in the central and western portions of India becomes serious and exchange with India in consequence is upset, either as regards the rate or the amount of the bills tendered, we may find difficulty in providing the ways and means we anticipated, in which case we shall be compelled, as on former occasions, to fall back upon the existing borrowing powers. After the fullest consideration and after an examination extending now over many years into the currency system of India, we have deliberately arrived at the conclusion that the attainment of a gold standard is desirable in the interests of the Indian people; and we shall not in any way be deterred from vigorously prosecuting that policy by all the means in our power merely because the next phase through which it has to advance may be coincident with an abnormal and temporary failure of crops. But, while I

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am quite ready to forego for the present the idea of a special loan, there are two aids of a very different character to which we can legitimately have recourse, and which will undoubtedly accelerate convertibility. There is a most important suggestion to which the name of Mr. Hambro is appended. Mr. Hambro is a Governor of the Bank of England and a financier deservedly occupying a position of high reputation in the City, and he speaks with authority when he points out that the insufficient banking facilities of India will be an obstacle to the realisation of the proposals of the Committee, and undoubtedly banking in India has not kept pace with the growth of trade and commerce. The presidency banks do their work very well, but their capital is small, and, as regards their available cash balances, these are almost entirely supplied by one account—namely, that of the Government. In a paper which was laid before the Committee, Sir James Westland points out that during the thirteen weeks of the busiest part of the year 90 per cent. of the available cash balances of the Bank of Bengal were derived from the Government account, and 80 per cent. of the cash balances of the Bank of Bombay were derived from the same source. The Government account forms a very much larger proportion of the cash balances of the presidency banks in India than is the case here, for at times the Bank of England could almost dispense with the Government account and still carry on their business; and it must be remembered that the cash balances of the presidency banks in India form a far more important banking factor there than do the Bank of England cash balances here, and that the flow and movement of cash in India is very much slower than is the case in England. I have certainly come to the conclusion from my experience that we are endeavouring to finance the export commerce and trade of India on too narrow a cash basis, or perhaps I should be more correct in saying too narrow a loanable capital basis. I believe there is room for a bank such as that suggested by Mr. Hambro, but in attempting to establish any such bank the legitimate rights of the presidency banks must in no sense be prejudiced or overlooked. Some contend that there would be difficulty in finding continuous employment for a bank with a large amount of capital, but Mr. Alfred de Rothschild, who speaks with exceptional authority on this point, read an admirable paper before the Committee, which pointed to an opposite conclusion. The views which I have expressed are, I know, held both by the Viceroy and the Finance Minister in India; we are in communication with the Indian Government on this point. Although I quite admit that there are various serious difficulties to be overcome they do not seem to be in any sense insuperable. If we can establish in India a great bank somewhat on the lines of the Bank of England or the Bank of France, we should have a most powerful ally in effecting our object—viz., the establishment of a gold standard and currency in India. But there is another method by which we can accelerate convertibility, and the preliminary steps for giving effect to this idea have already been taken. The production of gold in Southern India is estimated to amount to the annual value of £1,500,000. This gold is all shipped to London, and freight paid upon it by the exporter. We are entering into preliminary arrangements with the southern companies by which the Indian Government will have the option of purchasing this gold in exchange for rupees, and thus we shall contrive to annually increase our store of gold without in any degree interfering with or drawing upon the stocks of gold reserve in this country. Short, therefore, of raising a loan, we utilise all our powers and opportunities of giving effect to the policy laid down by the Committee, which is the consummation of the action taken in 1893 by the closing of the mints. We are now within a few months of the dawn of a new century. I earnestly hope that we may be able to associate the commencement of this new epoch with the establishment of continual financial surpluses in India available either for the remission of taxation, or the development of the industrial resources of the country, and that we shall be further able to associate these advantages with the establishment of a currency system which will give to India the fullest benefit, both monetary and commercial, of her direct connection with the cheapest, the largest, and the most fructifying money market in the world.

MR. CALDWELL (Lanark, Mid): I beg to move: "That under the existing procedure the superintending authority of Parliament over Indian affairs is not

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effectively exercised; that the salary of the Secretary of State for India should be placed on the Estimates; that the Debate on the Indian Budget should be appointed for an earlier day in the session; and that, with a view to the more effectual discharge by this House of its existing duty to the unrepresented Indian taxpayer, the East India Accounts should each year be referred to a Select Committee, with instructions to report on any special features deserving the attention of the House." I do not intend to go into the matters of detail which have been so ably discussed by the noble Lord in the most satisfactory account which he has given of the progress of India, and upon which I may be allowed to congratulate him. India is largely dependent on its agricultural produce for its prosperity. It is a well-known fact that agricultural prosperity all over the world has largely increased, and it is impossible that India should not be benefited from the same. But if a depression in the prices of agricultural produce were to come this year, or later, India would be certain to suffer. Another fact has to be borne in mind, and that is the phenomenal increase in the population. In olden times that increase in the population was kept down by tribal wars and famines. The policy of the British Government has been to prevent these tribal wars and famines, but that policy has increased the population to the extent of 70,000,000. What is necessary for the prosperity of India is irrigation works and the extension of railways, and any expenditure on these two items will amply repay the capital invested in them. The noble Lord has stated that it is the intention of the Government to open up the mineral wealth of the country; but that will take a considerable time, and not very much is to be expected from it for many years. The noble Lord also referred to the expansion of manufactures in India. We know quite well that the manufactures in Bombay and Calcutta have been of great advantage to India, but these have been regarded with a certain amount of jealousy in this country, which has been in the habit of regarding India as an appanage for the benefit of our manufactures. The noble Lord did not touch upon one factor which has an important bearing on the social condition of the people of India. I refer to money-lending at exorbitant rates. It is all very well in a country like this to have free trade in money; but that policy is not suited to the conditions of India, and a legal rate of interest should be fixed. Every Member of the House of Commons is naturally the representative of the people of India. We profess to be greatly interested as to the granting of the franchise to the people in the Transvaal, but what about the franchise in India? It is not sufficient to say that India is progressing under British rule. If this country were under French or German rule, it would not be much comfort to us to be told that the country was prosperous. We would urge that it was the right of the inhabitants to have some voice in the government of their own country. My first point is that under the existing procedure, the superintending authority of Parliament over Indian affairs is not effectually exercised. Anyone can see quite well that there is no effective discussion of Indian affairs in this House, and very little interest is taken in these affairs by the ordinary Members of the House. My second point is, that the salary of the Secretary of State for India should be placed on the Estimates. Nothing could be more reasonable. The salary of the Secretary of State for the Colonies is placed on the Estimates, and surely the salary of the Secretary of State for India, which is the most important appanage and jewel of the British Crown, should also be placed on the Estimates, especially as we are dealing with a civilised population which have no rights of their own, and no direct representation in this House. My third point is, that the Debate on the Indian Budget should be appointed for an earlier day in the session. The peoples of India have no representation here in the management of their own affairs, and anyone looking into this House can see the amount of interest taken in Indian affairs, which are relegated to a period of the session when everybody is away. I do not know anything more calculated to create discontent among perhaps the most contented people on earth. We have often heard in this House that we ought to have this Estimate referred to a Select Committee in order that we might have a Report on Supply. If that is the proper thing generally, surely it is more so in the case of India, and I see no reason why the noble Lord should not accept its being.

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sent to a Committee. I think that the acceptance of a resolution of this kind would not only tend to the contentment of the people of India when they felt the advantage of it, but that it is the only way to obtain their sympathies.

SIR WILLIAM WEDDERBURN (Banffshire): When the right hon. Gentleman the Member for East Wolverhampton was Secretary of State for India he declared in this House that all the Members of the House were Members for India. The sentiment was received by hon. Members with great enthusiasm; and I rejoiced that this was so, as showing that they recognised their responsibility towards India. At the same time, looking to-night at the empty benches, it must be confessed that the attendance is not what it would have been if the vital interests of British constituents had been in question. I will, however, gladly assume that this House sincerely desires to perform its duty of superintending Indian affairs and redressing Indian grievances; and my remarks will be of a strictly practical kind, showing how the machinery of this House fails to secure the object in view. I speak from sad personal experience, for during the last six years I have striven to get a hearing for the Indian view of Indian affairs, but in no case have I been able to obtain independent inquiry into any complaint, nor the redress of any Indian grievance, whether that grievance is suffered by an individual, by a class, or by the whole Indian people. Even in this country serious grievances arise, although the supreme authority is in the hands of the representatives of the taxpayers. It will be readily understood that grievances are more liable to arise in India, where the taxpayers have no voice whatever in the choice of their rulers; where the whole power is in the hands of officials; and where those officials, though undoubtedly able and honest, are foreigners, imperfectly acquainted with the people, and dependent for information upon ill-paid and untrustworthy subordinates. Under this system serious grievances must necessarily arise. The question is, what machinery exists by which the House of Commons, as the ultimate Court of Appeal, can secure the hearing of complaints and the redress of these grievances? The theory, of course, is that this can be done through the Secretary of State for India. He is supposed to be responsible to Parliament, and when dealing with Indian complaints he is supposed to occupy a position of judicial impartiality. But this is altogether a delusion. The Secretary of State for India, being backed by the Ministerial majority, is, in Indian matters, practically the master, not the servant of the House of Commons; and so far from being an impartial judge, ready to hear complaints and eager to afford redress, he is in reality the mouthpiece and champion of the official hierarchy, against whom the complaints are made. Deriving his views and information solely from the India Office, he becomes naturally the apologist of all official acts, and resents every complaint as a reflection upon the administration of which he is the head. Accordingly the regular routine is to refuse all independent inquiry; to refer complaints for report to the official complained against; and when that official pleads not guilty, to assure the House that no grievance exists. Unfortunately also, this refusal of independent inquiry extends even to important questions of fact where there is no personal complaint against an official. For example, for the last forty years I have specially interested myself in the ryots, the peasant proprietors who form the mass of the Indian population. Now, there exists an irreconcilable difference of opinion as to their condition. The India Office theory is that the ryot is a fat and comfortable person, increasing each year in prosperity, pleasantly conscious of the blessings of British rule. On the other hand, all Indian public opinion knows and asserts that he is a miserable starveling, hopelessly in debt to the money-lender; without store of food, money, or credit; living from hand to mouth, so that he readily dies from famine if there is a failure of one harvest. Here is a clear issue of fact; and, again and again, I have asked for a detailed village inquiry which would settle the point. No expense to speak of need be incurred. All that is wanted is to select a few typical villages in each province and ascertain the detailed facts of the ryot's condition, the inquiry being conducted by independent local committees, including officials and non-officials, Europeans and Indians. The village community is the microcosm of all India; if we could find out how to make one village prosperous, we should have a clue

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to make prosperous the half-million of villages of which India is made up. Three times in the last three years I have moved resolutions in this House asking for such an inquiry, and on each occasion it has been refused. I think I have said enough to show that the House of Commons cannot depend upon the Secretary of State for India to give a ready hearing to complaints, to make impartial inquiry, and to afford effectual protection to the weak against the strong. Failing him, what other machinery exists in the House of Commons for the redress of Indian grievances? There is the official Opposition, and in all other Departments, the ex-Minister takes the lead in criticising the doings of his successor on the Treasury Bench. But this is not the case as regards India. The ex-Minister, during his term of office, has become so thoroughly saturated with the spirit and traditions of the India Office that he cannot emancipate himself when he crosses to the Opposition side; so that when Indian complaints are under debate he seldom comes forward, and when he does it is generally to exchange compliments with his successor in office, and denounce the independent Member who has brought forward the grievance. Unfortunately also the group of independent Members who try to redress Indian grievances get little support or encouragement of public opinion in their uphill battle. As a general rule the Press seems to find some curious satisfaction and amusement in recording how the House empties itself when India is discussed, and instead of rebuking this neglect of duty it calls the speakers on behalf of India bores and faddists, as if the "ancient tale of woe" of the Indian cultivator was a topic suitable for light and humorous treatment. One hundred and twenty years ago Edmund Burke lamented this corrupted condition of public opinion in England, which, he said, "makes all reform of our Eastern Government appear officious and disgusting." He pointed out that "in such an attempt you hurt those who are able to return kindness and resent injury." "If you succeed you save those who cannot so much as give you thanks. . . . Our Indian Government is in its best state a grievance. But it is an arduous thing to plead against abuses of a power which originates from your own country, and affects those whom we are used to consider as strangers." Unhappily things are now much worse than they were when those words were spoken, especially in two particulars. In those days India was administered in the name of the East India Company, and there existed a wholesome jealousy, both in the House of Commons and the country, of a chartered monopoly. That wholesome jealousy has been lulled to sleep since the Crown has openly assumed the administration. The other great benefit that India then enjoyed, and has now lost, was that every twenty years there was a full and impartial inquiry into the Indian administration, previous to the renewal of the charter. Out of those inquiries arose all the most useful and progressive reforms by which Parliament has benefited India. Also, the East India Company put its house in order and redressed grievances when those inquiries were in sight. Now all these benefits are lost. Since 1856 there has been no such inquiry, no day of reckoning for the Indian administration, and the Indian people are quite powerless to obtain that thorough and independent investigation into facts which used to come to them automatically and without effort once every twenty years.

LORD G. HAMILTON: Who gave evidence?

SIR WILLIAM WEDDERBURN: The House of Commons examined whoever was willing to give evidence, and all grievances were brought forward.

LORD G. HAMILTON: They were all servants of the East India Company.

SIR WILLIAM WEDDERBURN: Fortunately now we can get intelligent persons to give evidence who are not in that position. I think I have sufficiently shown that, with the existing machinery, Parliament is not in a position to redress Indian grievances. Indeed, our system does not even provide a hearing for complaints. The question is, what are the remedies? Our suggestions are of a mild and moderate kind, which need frighten nobody. The first is that the Indian Budget Debate should be brought on at an earlier date in the session. An hon. friend on the other side has just put down an Amendment to my motion to the effect that the present system is satisfactory. But I hardly think his approval will extend to the practice

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of postponing to the last day of the session the financial affairs of our 250 million Indian fellow-subjects. I will not labour this point, for I know that in this matter I have the sympathy of the House. I have not yet found a Member who did not consider this practice, which is common to all Governments, a scandal and a discredit. Our next proposal is that the Indian accounts should be referred to a Select Committee to report on any special feature deserving the attention of the House. Surely this is a reasonable proposal, and in accordance with the practice of the House, when it has to deal with any intricate and important matter. Three years ago I brought forward this proposal, but it was rejected by the noble Lord the Secretary of State, who said that "he was convinced that it would be almost impossible to bring the members of a Committee of this kind together in sufficient numbers and sufficiently often to enable them to report with effect on a question of such importance." I submit that this is an undeserved reflection upon the industry and capacity of the House. One reason why at present an Indian financial Debate is futile is because there are no clear issues for decision, and because no hearing is given to the case for the Indian taxpayer. This would in some degree be remedied if independent members of the Legislative Council in Calcutta had power to move Amendments on the Budget and divide the Council. These Amendments would show the crucial points which a Select Committee should consider, reporting the result for the decision of the House. Our third proposal is that the salary of the Secretary of State should be placed on the Estimates, like the salary of the Colonial Secretary. This would be a financial justice to India, which ought not to pay for the current business of the House of Commons; but it would also afford a constitutional opportunity for dealing with Indian grievances. I have sometimes occasion to bring forward grievances in other Departments of the State, and have always received courteous treatment from Ministers, who give a ready hearing to complaints, never refuse inquiry, and generally discover some means of redress. I cannot say the same of Indian Secretaries of State, who are conveniently free from the ordeal of getting through Votes on the British Estimates, while their own salaries are beyond the reach of the House of Commons, being taken direct from the Indian Exchequer. I am convinced that if the noble Lord's salary had been on the Estimates such a grievance as that of the Natu brothers would have been redressed long ago, as in the case of Dr. Lamont, who had to wait till the hon. Baronet the Member for the Bridgeton Division compelled attention by moving a reduction of the Scottish Secretary's salary. It is now more than two years since the Natu brothers were cast into prison, without trial, and without to this day knowing the real cause of their imprisonment. When questioned in the House the noble Lord has given contradictory replies on this point. In August, 1897, he stated that they were imprisoned in order to unravel a murderous conspiracy. But the murderers of Mr. Rand and Lieut. Ayeost have been discovered, tried, and executed; and the presiding judge found that the crime was an isolated act of fanaticism, and that there was no murderous conspiracy at all. Next, in February, 1898, the noble Lord said that the Natus were imprisoned because they worked against the plague regulations. But the published correspondence shows that Sirdar Natu acted zealously on the Committee for carrying out the plague regulations, and that he did so at the personal request of the Governor of Bombay. Again, in April 1898, a third and different reason was given, when the noble Lord said that the Natus were detained because the public tranquillity was endangered. Upon this the comment of the *Times of India*, the leading Press supporter of the Government, is as follows:

> "The time has come for the Government either to bring the detention of these men to an end, or to take the public more into their confidence in regard to it than they have yet done."

And referring to the modified arrangement, under which the Natus are now detained at Belgaum away from their homes, this journal argues that:

> "If so light a restraint as confinement within the limits of a spacious collectorate is sufficient to make these men harmless to the State, they cannot now be very dangerous persons."

We have heard much of the Dreyfus scandal, and rejoice that it is now being dealt with by the French Government.

Sir William Wedderburn.

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But in some respects the case of the Natus is worse, for Captain Dreyfus had some sort of trial, whereas the Natu brothers are absolutely refused a trial, and do not even know the reason of their imprisonment. I submit that the good name of this House is involved in this case, and that the Natu brothers should be either tried or released. In seconding this resolution, I appeal for support to independent Members on both sides of the House. No revolutionary changes are proposed, but only constitutional methods of fulfilling our existing duty of superintendence and control over Indian affairs. Poor India has been suffering in the last few years from war, famine, and pestilence. This need not be so. On the contrary, with an industrious and docile population, and a fine soil and climate, India ought, under British rule, to be the abode of peace and of plenty.

Amendment proposed—

"To leave out from the word 'that' to the end of Question, in order to add the words, 'under the existing procedure the superintending authority of Parliament over Indian affairs is not effectively exercised; that the salary of the Secretary of State for India should be placed on the Estimates; that the Debate on the Indian Budget should be appointed for an earlier day in the session; and that, with a view to the more effectual discharge by this House of its existing duty to the unrepresented Indian taxpayer, the East India Accounts should each year be referred to a Select Committee with instructions to report on any special features deserving the attention of the House.'"—(*Mr. Caldwell*)—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question."

COLONEL MILWARD (Warwickshire, Stratford-on-Avon): I rise for the purpose of opposing the Amendment which has been placed upon the Paper. It proposes that the salary of the Secretary of State should be placed on the Estimates of this country, but I do not see any possibility of that being done unless this country wishes to pay that salary for the sake of discussing Indian affairs. I agree with that part of the resolution which says that the Debate on the Budget should take place on an earlier day, but I presume the difficulty is that the accounts of India are made up to the 31st March, and that it is almost impossible that they should be considered here, and discussed, much earlier than is now the case. With reference to the Select Committee which it is proposed to form for the purpose of considering these accounts, the House will probably agree that it has quite enough accounts of its own to consider without embroiling itself in the accounts of India. The House has not forgotten the farce which took place on Thursday evening last, when we walked through the lobbies about eighteen times in Divisions upon the accounts of our own country, and upon many of which we were unable to say a single word. Apart from that, I wish to draw the attention of the House to the fact that the accounts and affairs of India are managed by a set of men of the very highest qualifications, and it is simply impossible that we could meddle with or effectually superintend those accounts without taking away from the responsibilities which rest quite properly upon our Indian Civil Service. Within the last few months I made a short tour in India, and I had opportunities of making myself acquainted with certain phases of Indian official life, and especially of frontier life. One of the first gentlemen I was speaking with on this subject was the Colonel commanding the 2nd Goorkhas, who was at one time private secretary to Lord Roberts, and therefore had an inner view of official life. He suggested to me that the army we have in India is too small for the great responsibilities which are laid upon it, and that our frontier is so great that our troops are not sufficiently numerous to guard it properly. I said, of course, that the army of India and the affairs of India depended very largely upon the politics of Europe, and the question of the possible invasion of India was certainly more a question for us at home than for India; and therefore it seemed only fair and reasonable that this country should contribute a portion of the cost of maintaining an army which was expressly put through for the purpose of resisting an advance from the north. The Colonel's reply to that struck me very forcibly. He said, "We do not wish Parliament to direct or have any right of minute interference with our financial affairs, such as it would have if it made a grant towards the maintenance of the army." It occurred to me at the time that that was probably the explanation of what took place some three years ago when hon. Members opposite were very anxious that we should contribute

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£2,000,000, I think it was, towards the expenses of the Chitral expedition, and the Secretary of State for India on the part of the Indian Government declined it. It also has to be considered whether in dealing with our colonies with regard to finance we do not very often look at them through coloured spectacles—coloured in the interests of this country. In the West Indies we have colonies which are actually going into lower and lower depths of ruin, but which could be saved at once were it not for the fact that this country is so wedded to a system of its own that it would rather see these colonies go to ruin than stretch out its hand in a particular direction to help them. Then too, all through the recent sugar Debate it was the policy of England and not the policy of India that was being discussed. It was simply the fear that countervailing duties might be introduced in this country. Everyone was looking through the coloured spectacle of England with regard to the Cotton Duties. Some three or four years ago India was obliged to put a tariff of 5 per cent. on almost every article that came to India; we forced the country to adopt an excise duty for the sake of our English manufacturers; that is to say we increased the cost—not of a luxury, but of a prime necessity of life—for the sake not of India, but of our population at home. Under these circumstances I am not surprised that India will not have more direct interference from this country than she can help. If for no other reason, I should oppose this motion because it is inopportune. At this moment, as the Secretary of State has pointed out, we see India singularly prosperous and well governed; she is using her prosperity in the best possible way, namely, for the purposes of constructing railroads and developing her manufactures and commerce. She is also at the same time largely diminishing the military expenditure which presses so greatly on the people of India. During the last few days we have seen in the papers that the military expenditure on the north-west frontier has been largely reduced. When I was in India I went through the Khyber Pass, and I found it already marked the whole way where the new railway was to go.

*MR. SPEAKER: Order, order! I must remind the hon. Member that the only question before the House is the procedure and method by which this House should exercise its superintendence and control over the affairs of India. That is the only question as long as this Amendment is under consideration.

COLONEL MILWARD: With reference to that, I was using the argument that India herself is at the present moment advancing by the very means we desire; she is exercising the very greatest economy, and endeavouring to expend her revenues in the best possible way. However, I might very easily go too far in that direction, and I will merely say that I most strongly oppose the resolution which has been brought forward. Another reason why I oppose it is the splendid character, to which I have already alluded, of our Indian civil servants. I had always believed that we had sent to India to serve us, both in the Army and Civil Service, men of the very highest quality, but when I visited that country I was surprised at the splendid men that are to be found there in every branch of the service. It would be a slight upon those men to pass such a resolution as this, which is really a reflection upon the administration which has hitherto taken place in India. Nor must we forget the noble Lord who left here last year to take up the Viceroyalty of India. We could put no greater slight upon him than to choose this particular opportunity of saying that the whole accounts of the administration of India should be controlled and checked by this House. When Lord Curzon went to India there were some on both sides of the House who thought he might pursue a policy which was not only not particularly safe, but even venturous with regard to the countries outside India, but from what I have heard and seen in India——

*MR. SPEAKER: Order, order! The hon. Member is again travelling into questions which are not before the House.

COLONEL MILWARD: I will conclude, Sir, by saying that I desire to oppose the motion.

MR. HARWOOD (Bolton): I venture to ask the House to look at this matter from the point of view of one who is not perhaps very familiar with

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Indian matters, but one quite familiar with the official presentation of things, and if the noble Lord will allow me I would venture to congratulate him on the rose-water sprinkling he has given the House this afternoon. That official treatment reminds one of a sort of political "Badminton," in which a shuttlecock of pleasant phrases is tossed from one Front Bench to the other. Then we have those who speak on behalf of the natives of India, who have not many people to speak for them; but I do not propose to look at the matter from that point of view, because I think it may be pressed too far. I am not at all disposed to agree with everything of which natives complain, nor do I think it would be wise to grant everything they desire. But there is a third point of view—that of the ordinary English Member of Parliament who looks at the simple facts of the case. What are those facts? Surely there is nothing more wonderful than the fact of the government of India by the people of England—the government of a country containing a quarter of the population of the globe, the home of philosophy and of all the most interesting products of human intellect and human fancy, as it were the very destination at which Alexander arrived—this country, containing a quarter of the population of the globe, and that population differing in race, tradition, and language, ruled by the white-faced people of a little island in the Northern Sea, more than 8,000 miles away. I say, this is a fact which has charmed my fancy since boyhood, and when I came to this House I thought it was a fact which would fire the imagination and stir the enthusiasm of the House of Commons. At all times I expected that that would be so, but more especially should I expect it in these days—days of rampant Imperialism, when everything concerning the Empire seems to catch popular interest and stir popular enthusiasm; and also when we remember that India is the keystone of the arch of our whole Empire. If we so misgovern India as to lose her, then farewell to the British Empire. That being so, I should have expected that Indian questions, and particularly the great Debate—I will not call it the "great" Debate, but the Debate on the Indian Budget—would, at any rate, firstly, be taken at a convenient time; and secondly, be attended by a full House. What do I find? I find that this question is relegated to the last dying gasp of the session, when only a few wearied Members can assemble, with whatever intellect they possess pretty well used up and their physical energy equally exhausted. There is an inconsistency somewhere, and it makes me doubt all these fine phrases about our Imperial instinct and our Imperial devotion when I see what that devotion leads to. Surely it is a sort of insult to these people whom you are governing not to care to give more attention to, or to put more spirit into, our consideration of their affairs. It may be said, as the hon. and gallant Gentleman opposite remarked, that we have got faith in our own people. I would echo with the greatest possible pleasure all that is said on that point. I do not think any country in the world has ever produced a class of public servants of whom that country might be so proud as may this country be of its public servants in India at the present time. I am quite prepared to admit that, but that is not the question. The question is a deeper one than that. It is, is it wise, is it right for us so to handle our responsibilities that we do not pay the least attention to those responsibilities, but put all this load upon the backs of our public servants? In the first place, it is not just to those public servants, because their services are not understood or appreciated as they would be if they were fairly discussed in this House and fairly known and considered by Parliament. Secondly, it is not just to the people whom we entrust to these servants. The common teaching of all history and political experience is the dangers of bureaucracy. That is the lesson we are learning from the contemporary history of other countries in other parts of the world, and yet we choose to hand over a quarter of the population of the globe to this bureaucratic government. However good or however capable that government may be, it is not a wise policy for an enlightened country like this to adopt in regard to a vast Empire such as ours. Some of the papers say that the Indian Debate is a solemn farce. I question the accuracy of the expression. It is not dignified enough to be solemn, and certainly it is not humorous enough to be called a farce. Looking at the bare facts—the one fact, this mighty Empire; the other fact, our responsibility towards it, and the atten-

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tion given to that responsibility — I say it is not a farce; it is a tragedy, and it is a tragedy which makes me ashamed of the pretensions I hear and read, ashamed of our loud boasts of Empire, when we care to do so little for it and pay so little attention to it. This state of things is not an accident; it is not a dramatic incident merely; but it is an indication of a direct policy against which we are bound to protest—the policy of bureaucratic government. This Debate is an instance of the way in which the financial statement is brought forward. It has been said that it could not be brought forward earlier because the accounts are only made up to March 31st. Surely there is no law of the Medes and Persians as to making up the accounts to that particular date. Surely if it is worth while, in order that Parliament might consider these accounts at a proper time, and have opportunity of discussing them, they could be made up to a different date. But I see the same thing in regard to India herself. There is one question which proves that there is a deliberate attempt to do away with representative government of India as far as this Parliament is concerned, and there is also a deliberate attempt to do away with representative government in India as far as its local affairs are concerned. I would mention Calcutta as a case in point. It would not be so much in itself, but it is one link of a chain. What is one result of this bureaucratic government? It is our daring to do with India what we should not dare to do with any other portion of the Empire. We are going to make her the *corpus vile* of economic experiments. Sugar bounties form a case in question. That is probably too large a point to be discussed here, but I say emphatically that we have no right to make India the testing ground for economic heresies of that kind when India must pay the consequences. The House ought only to take such steps with its eyes wide open, and ought to be prepared to do in its own country all that it does in regard to other countries for which it is responsible. I congratulate the noble Lord upon the departure which has been made in the matter of the currency. Reference has been made to the selfishness of the county from which I come. I can only say, that as far as I know the feeling of the county, it is unanimous in favour of the policy which the Government has adopted as to the currency. I am not quite clear that the arrangement of having an unlimited supply of silver——

*MR. SPEAKER: Order, order! The hon. Member is departing from the Amendment before the House.

MR. HARWOOD: I was only instancing this as one illustration of our method of governing against which I protest. I will not go further, except to say as to developing the resources of India, particularly as to gold and iron——

*MR. SPEAKER: Order, order! I must again remind the House that the only question before it is whether the mode of procedure under which this House exercises its control of Indian affairs is capable of amendment or alteration. The question of the affairs of India generally and the policy of this country towards India generally is not a matter for discussion on this Amendment.

MR. HARWOOD: I quite see the justice of your decision. I will only say, therefore, that I thoroughly support the Amendment, on the ground which you have ruled to be the ground of discussion —viz., that I consider our system of governing India, of bringing on this Debate and making the financial statement so late in the session, and putting the Secretary of State without the purview of the criticism of this House, as not a system which is wise for India or wise for England.

*SIR H. H. FOWLER (Wolverhampton, E.): I should not have interposed in this Debate just now but for the speech which my hon. friend has just made. I feel that I must not transgress the rule you have laid down with reference to this Debate, and as there are half-a-dozen remarks I should like to make on the statement of the noble Lord, if the House will allow me so to do, I will submit them when we have disposed of this Amendment. But I must say a word or two in defence of the Government of India and the supervision of the Government of India by this House, and also in defence of the House itself, after the speech of my hon. friend to which we have just listened with so much pleasure. My hon. friend has been in Parliament

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long enough to be familiar with its recent history so far as Indian matters are concerned, and I say with all respect to him that it is not correct, or in accordance with the facts of the case, to state here, and to let it go from here to India, that this House—and I am speaking of the House as a whole—is indifferent to Indian affairs. I venture to say that during the last few years there have been no Debates which have excited greater interest, and there have been no more important Divisions than those upon Indian affairs. I might instance the Debates upon Indian finance, upon Frontier policy, the Debates upon Chitral, the Debates upon questions which have been raised with reference to the internal policy of India, and the Debate to which the hon. Member himself alluded in regard to the recent change in the fiscal system of India. All these matters have excited interest in all parts of the House. Members of all shades of opinion have spoken upon them, and attention has been drawn to them in every organ of public opinion in the country, and the decisions upon them—it is not for me to say whether those decisions were right or wrong, with some of them I have agreed, and from others I have differed—are the decisions of the House of Commons, not of a bureaucracy, but of the House of Commons, representing for the time being the decision of the majority of the constituencies of this country. No man has a right to imply—and I am sure the hon. Member is the last man to wish to convey a wrong impression—that this House is indifferent to Indian affairs, or treats them as a solemn farce or tragedy.

MR. HARWOOD: I did not wish for one moment to convey that impression. I wished to imply that this House has not an opportuity of showing its interest, because of the date fixed for the Debate.

*SIR H. H. FOWLER: I am very glad my hon. friend interposed, because I am sure he did not wish to convey a wrong impression, and I am glad to have given him the opportunity of making it perfectly clear to the public, as it was capable of some misapprehension. I go, however, to the gravamen of this Resolution, and I join issue not only upon the remedies but on the allegations therein set forth. I say the superintending authority of Parliament over Indian affairs is effectively exercised, and I say that, in my judgment, the modes proposed would not promote the more efficient discharge of that duty. The government of India is a statutory government. It is a government prescribed and regulated by Acts of Parliament, and Parliament alone has the power to alter or modify that form of government. The government of India is a government unique in itself. We have no parallel for it elsewhere in the British constitution, and we are liable to fall into error when we attempt to apply to it either the illustration of our government at home, or of our self-governing colonies, or of our Crown colonies. It is not a self-governing colony. It is not a Crown colony, which is practically a despotism tempered to a certain extent by some local adminstration under the control of the Secretary of State. Parliament has constituted for India—and it is not for me to say whether Parliament was right or wrong; all I want to impress upon the House is what Parliament has done, Parliament has constituted for India a legislative authority, and it has constituted an executive authority, and it has put both those authorities under the control of a Cabinet Minister responsible to the House of Commons. The Secretary of State for India is as responsible to the House of Commons for every act of Indian policy as is the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, or the Secretary of State for the Colonies, or the Secretary of State for the Home Department. I will not weary the House by quoting what I quoted a very few weeks ago—the lucid, powerful, and unanswerable argument of Lord Salisbury as to the absolute responsibility of the Secretary of State for every Department of Indian affairs. Parliament has associated with the Secretary of State—and again there is no parallel for this in any part of the Empire—a Council or Cabinet or Select Committee. In these Debates this Council is generally ignored or some offensive remark is made about it—as, for example, that it is an official hierarchy—but there is no more important body of public men discharging public duty in this kingdom at this moment than the Indian Council of the Secretary of State. It is a Council which is always in session. It has no holidays. It is bound by Act of Parlia-

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ment to meet every week. Its longest vacation is from Monday in one week to Saturday in the next. It sits all the year round. It must be presided over either by the Secretary of State or by a Vice-President, who is chosen at the commencement of every year. We are told we want men of experience of Indian affairs —not ignorant Secretaries of State who come and go, and who, never having been there, know nothing about India. I will trouble the House with the names of a few of the men who constitute that council. On the civil side we have Sir Alfred Lyall. Will any man question Sir Alfred Lyall's knowledge of India in every aspect of its government, history, and administration? We have Sir James Peile, Sir Steuart Bayley, Sir Charles Crosthwaite, Sir Dennis Fitzpatrick, and we are glad to hear that to the Indian Council is to be added that able financier, Sir James Westland. These are all men whose names are written on the pages of the history of India—who know all about it, who have governed with singular success some of the largest provinces under the British Crown, men who have spent their lives in India, and who are as jealous for the honour of England in connection with India, who are as anxious to promote the well-being of the people of India, rich or poor, high or low, as any man in this House or in this kingdom. Associated with these great administrators you have two distinguished judges, the late Chief Justice of the North-West Provinces, and another distinguished Judge who served in the India Office in a judicial capacity, Sir John Edge and Sir Philip Hutchins. Then, with a great military empire you require a military representation, and I think Field-Marshal Sir Donald Stewart and General Gordon well represent the Military Department on the Council. Added to these you have commerce represented by one of the most distinguished English and Indian merchants, who has spent the greater part of his life in India, who is well known in the City of London, Sir James Mackay, and you have also one of the most distinguished bankers in the City of London, Mr. Le Marchant, who is the successor of Mr. Bertram Currie. Such are the men who form the Council of India, and I do not think the public really know how the government of India is carried on, and they cannot know it without appreciating the men by whom it is carried on. The Council is divided into committees. There is the Finance Department, the Military Department, the Political Department, the Judicial Department, the Public Works Department, and the Revenue and Statistical Department, and in every one of these great departments you have distinguished permanent Civil servants, men of the character and class of Sir Francis Mowatt, Sir Alfred Milner, Sir Arthur Godley, and Sir George Murray. This Council is divided up into committees, constantly sitting, constantly overhauling, constantly controlling the whole administration of India. And when you say that grievances are not considered I give to that allegation the most positive contradiction of which the English language is capable. All grievances are considered by the Council and by its committees, and by the Secretary of State personally. I know no Department where there is a more vigorous personal supervision in all its working than there is in the Indian Department. The Secretary of State being assisted by such distinguished men as I have mentioned, and his Parliamentary responsibility being unchallenged, what do we want further in the way of superintending authority? We must apply the analogy of the superintending authority of other Departments. The Secretary of State has to undergo—and I know what it means myself—a daily fire of questions. I have always resisted any attempt to curtail the right of hon. Members to ask questions in the House. I know no more effective control than the power of asking questions Next there is the opportunity of the debate on the Address. For several years there has always been an Indian Amendment. Then there are the opportunities of Debates on specific subjects. Certainly the policies both of the past and present Secretaries of State have been submitted to the censure or approval of the House, and the House has dealt with them on great questions. I can go back to my own recollection. There was an important Debate on the cotton duties. My action on that occasion was challenged and the House did not see fit to censure me. Then a very important question was raised with reference to the opium question, and there was a full Debate and a very large division upon it. Then there was another question on which I acted with the

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full approval of the Prime Minister and the Cabinet, and not on my own authority, as has often been said. I declined to carry out the resolution of the House with reference to competitive examinations, a resolution which in the opinion of Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues menaced the existence of the British Power in India. A deputation waited on me to remonstrate with me on my action, and I frankly admitted that I had done what might be called an unconstitutional thing in disregarding a resolution of the House of Commons; but I told them that I should stand by my action, and that I was quite willing to take the judgment of the House upon it. I said that if they desired to propose a vote of censure upon what I had done I would insist on the Leader of the House giving a day for its discussion. But they never asked for a day. They never put a motion down, and I perfectly understood why, because a member of the deputation said, "If we did get a day you would get a large majority." I said, "Perhaps I should," but I declined, as I was of opinion that a snatch Vote, carried by a majority of eight on a Friday evening in a House of somewhere between fifty and a hundred Members, was not the deliberate judgment of the House of Commons on a question of vital importance to the maintenance of our rule in India. I am simply quoting that to show that there is the amplest opportunity of challenging the conduct of the Secretary of State for India. The present Secretary of State has been more subjected than I was to this mode of warfare. He has had to face a great Debate on the retention of Chitral, as well as Debates on Indian troops being sent to the Soudan, and upon the great question of policy in connection with the sugar bounties. On all these occasions the House had opportunities of exercising its control over the Secretary of State, and my point is that the Indian Minister is subject to the same control as any other Minister of State. Then it is said that the Budget is brought in too late in the session. The hon. Member asks, "Is there any reason why it should not be brought in earlier?" There is one reason. There is an Act of Parliament which prevents the Debate being taken before May 15. Within fourteen days after May 1st the Secretary of State is bound to lay on the Table a full statement of the Indian revenue and expenditure, and of the moral and material progress of India. If the House really wished the Indian Budget to come on a month or six weeks earlier the matter is in its own hands, for no Minister would resist the feeling of the House on that point. But the Secretary of State is in no way responsible in the matter. It rests entirely in the hands of the Leader of the House, and Leaders on both sides of the House have taken the same view, and put the Budget off to the last hours of the session. But when the Budget does come on there is no automatic closure; the Debate is unrestricted, and can be protracted to a late hour. I repeat, the House of Commons cannot exercise a minute daily and hourly supervision of the government of 300 millions of people. That would be an impossibility. If there is one thing more than another that the House is crying out for it is devolution, and there is no necessity for putting this heavy burden upon it in respect of work which is as well done as it could be done under any change which might be suggested. Then it is proposed that the salary of the Secretary of State should be put upon the Estimates. The Chancellor of the Exchequer would have a word or two to say to that addition to the expenditure. I suppose such a proposal would include the salary of the Viceroy and of the whole Indian establishment.

*SIR CHARLES DILKE (Gloucestershire, Forest of Dean): A token Vote.

*SIR H. H. FOWLER: I do not know what my right hon. friend means by a token Vote. It is a financial impossibility to put in the Estimates a token Vote, even of 5s., if it is not to be paid out of the Estimates. At all events, this is a part of the constitution of India with reference to finance, and cannot be altered except by legislation. It just occurs to me there is one thing in which the Secretary of State has not a dominating power. He is supreme in most things, but he cannot spend a £5 note without the consent of the Indian Council, and on questions of finance he has only one vote. The control of the Indian Revenue and Expenditure has been placed by Parliament in the hands of that Council. Then there is the alternative that there should be a Select Committee. To do what? The Indian

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system of finance is not so simple as the English system. There are more than 1,000 treasuries in India, and there is a gigantic system of audit and control. The Select Committee, of course, would be precluded from considering questions of policy. I remember it was once said, by my right hon. friend the Member for West Monmouthshire, "You cannot refer the British Constitution to a Committee upstairs." When it is suggested there should be a Select Committee to consider Indian accounts, no doubt the idea is to have something like the Public Accounts Committee. But that Committee is a body holding a judicial position as between the Controller and Auditor-General and the Treasury. I have never seen any allegation that the control of the Indian Controller and Auditor-General is defective; but I am quite certain that a casual Select Committee meeting once now and again could not exercise any effective control over Indian finance, and that the effect would be only to introduce confusion and dissatisfaction. These are the grounds on which I object to this motion; but there has been a spice of personality introduced into the Debate. There has been an attack on the Secretary of State in his personal capacity, and in order to deprive it of anything of a party character and so make it as broad as possible, it was clearly indicated that the attack did not refer solely to the noble Lord, but included the ex-Minister. It was said that these two officers were not impartial judges, that they were simply the mouthpiece of the official hierarchy of the Indian Council, that they resented all complaints and were guilty of personal discourtesy to hon. Members with reference to Indian matters. I plead not guilty to every one of those charges, and I am sure the noble Lord will also repudiate them. If any man says that the Secretary of State is not impartial, I say he knows nothing of the facts of the case, he has not been inside the India Office, and does not know how its business is transacted. If I appealed to the other members of the Indian Council, they would say that the Secretary of State is the last man to act as the mouthpiece of the Council, and I say that it is an unfair and unfounded attack to say that he would. I will put it to the hon. Baronet who has made this charge. Was there a single grievance which he brought to my notice when I was in office that I did not personally investigate? Some grievances he brought to my notice were well founded, and I did my best to remedy them; on some of them I came to a different opinion than that held by the hon. Baronet. One word more on the personal question. Fault has been found with me here and in certain organs of the Press because I will not make India a party question. I never will. I would forfeit my position on this Bench or any other, if it was to be a condition of public life so far as I was concerned that India was to be looked at through the spectacles of party, and that all was wrong which the "ins" did, and all was right which the "outs" suggested. The one salvation of India is to keep out of party politics, and feel our individual and personal responsibility to India, not as members of the Conservative or Liberal parties, but as Members of the House of Commons representing India. I believe that in the main that condition has been preserved to the present hour, and that this House has always shown the greatest respect and sympathy for those Members of the House, no matter on which side they sit, who have shown interest in Indian matters and have submitted to the House propositions of grave importance. I feel strongly upon the government of India, not as a romance, as the hon. Member for Bolton says, but from a personal knowledge and personal interest. I have a profound admiration for our system of government in India. I believe it is the only system of government which could have welded India together, and maintained the *pax Britannica.* There is no such thing as a nation of India possessing any unity, physical, political, social, or religious. India consists of a large number of separate nations, of people of different creeds and races, residing in different climates, and exposed to opposing influences, and it would be impossible to weld them together as one nation. They never have been and they never will be. It is the one dominating power of the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland and Empress of India which governs that vast mass of people, a people who have, as Sir John Strachey said, fifty different languages, and he adds there is as great a difference between the Scot and the Spaniard as there is between the Bengali and Punjabi. A native of India! You might as well talk of the

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political opinions of a native of Europe. In India we have consolidated a splendid system of government. Of course, the system has its faults. There are stupid men and stupid blunders in the government of 300,000,000 people, but I do not think that the history of Asia has ever recorded so just, so equitable, so peaceful, and so successful a government as the government of Great Britain of the Empire of India. I hope that this House will never tamper with the outworks of that great system, but will go on doing its best, according to its own lights, to promote and develop the true interests and resources of India.

Question put.

The House divided :—Ayes, 95 ; Noes, 36. (Division List, No. 363.)

AYES.

Arnold, Alfred
Ashmead-Bartlett, Sir Ellis
Atkinson, Rt. Hon. John
Bagot, Capt. Josceline FitzRoy
Balfour, Rt Hn Gerald W. (Leeds
Banbury, Frederick George
Barnes, Frederic Gorell
Barton, Dunbar Plunket
Bathurst, Hon. Allen Benjamin
Bethell, Commander
Bhownaggree, Sir M. M.
Bigwood, James
Bill, Charles
Birrell, Augustine
Boscawen, Arthur Griffith-
Brassey, Albert
Brodrick, Rt. Hon. St. John
Butcher, John George
Causton, Richard Knight
Cavendish, V.C. W. (Derbysh.)
Cecil, Evelyn (Hertford, E.)
Chaloner, Captain R. G. W.
Chamberlain, Rt. Hn. J. (Birm.)
Chamberlain, J. Austen (Worc'r
Channing, Francis Allston
Chaplin, Rt Hon. Henry
Cochrane, Hon. T. H. A. E.
Cohen, Benjamin Louis
Collings, Rt. Hon. Jesse
Colomb, Sir John C. Ready
Cox, Irwin Edw. Bainbridge
Cranborne, Viscount
Dalkeith, Earl of
Davies, Sir Horatio D (Chatham
Douglas, Rt. Hon. A. Akers-
Evershed, Sydney
Finlay, Sir Robert Bannatyne
Fisher, William Hayes
Flannery, Sir Fortescue
Flower, Ernest
Foster, Sir Walter (Derby Co.)
Fowler, Rt Hon. Sir Henry
Garfit, William
Gedge, Sydney
Giles, Charles Tyrrell
Gladstone, Rt. Hon. Herb. Jno.
Goldsworthy, Major-General
Gray, Ernest (West Ham)
Greville, Hon. Ronald
Hamilton, Rt. Hon. Lord George
Hanbury, Rt. Hon. Robert Wm.
Hayne, Rt. Hn. Charles Seale-
Helder, Augustus
Henderson, Alexander
Johnston, William (Belfast)
Keswick, William
Kimber, Henry
Lawrence, Sir E. Durning-(Corn
Lawrence, Wm. F. (Liverpool
Loder, Gerald Walter Erskine
Long, Rt. Hn. Walter (Liverpool
Loyd, Archie Kirkman
Macartney, W. G. Ellison
Maclure, Sir John William
M'Arthur, William (Cornwall)
Mappin, Sir Frederick Thorpe
Mellor, Colonel (Lancashire)
Mendl, Sigismund Ferdinand
Milbank, Sir Powlett Chas. J.
Milward, Colonel Victor
Moon, Edward Robert Pacy
Morrison, Walter
Murray, Rt Hn A Graham (Bute
Perks, Robert William
Pierpoint, Robert
Purvis, Robert
Ridley, Rt. Hon. Sir M. W.
Ritchie, Rt. Hn. Chas. Thomson
Runciman, Walter
Russell, T. W. (Tyrone)
Sandys, Lt.-Col. Thos. Myles
Scoble, Sir Andrew Richard
Sharpe, William Edward T.
Stanley, Edw. Jas. (Somerset)
Stanley, Lord (Lancs.)
Stone, Sir Benjamin
Tomlinson, Wm. Edw. Murray
Valentia, Viscount.
Vincent, Col. Sir C. E. Howard
Williams, Joseph Powell-(Birm
Wodehouse, Rt. Hon E. R. (Bath
Wrightson, Thomas
Wylie, Alexander
Wyndham, George
Wyndham-Quin, Major W. H.

TELLERS FOR THE AYES—Sir William Walrond and Mr. Anstruther.

NOES.

Abraham, W. (Cork, N.E.)
Ashton, Thomas Gair
Bolton, Thomas Dolling
Caldwell, James
Cameron, Robert (Durham)
Clough, Walter Owen
Colville, John
Curran, Thomas B. (Donegal)
Curran, Thomas (Sligo, S.)
Dilke, Rt. Hon. Sir Charles
Edwards, Owen Morgan
Griffith, Ellis J.
Hogan, James Francis
Horniman, Frederick John
Lambert, George
Lawson, Sir W. (Cumberland)
Lewis, John Herbert
Lloyd-George, David
Macaleese, Daniel
Maddison, Fred.
Molloy, Bernard Charles
Morgan, J. L. (Carmarthen)
O'Connor, Arthur (Donegal)
O'Connor, J. (Wicklow, W.)
Palmer, Sir C. M. (Durham)
Pickersgill, Edward Hare
Pirie, Duncan V.
Price, Robert John
Randell, David
Rickett, J. Compton
Roberts, John H. (Denbighs.)
Steadman, William Charles
Sullivan, Donal (Westmeath)
Warner, Thomas Courtenay T.
Williams, John Carvell (Notts.)
Wilson, Henry J. (York, W.R.)

TELLERS FOR THE NOES—Sir William Wedderburn and Mr. Harwood.

Main question again proposed.

*SIR MANCHERJEE BHOWNAGGREE (Bethnal Green, N.E.): I congratulate the House upon the decision at which it has just arrived on the Amendment which has been under discussion, and thank the right hon. Gentleman the Member for East Wolverhampton for having shown so forcibly and clearly that

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important Indian questions did not fail to receive proper and fair treatment at the hands of the British Parliament. The only item in the Amendment with which I agree is that the Debate on the Indian Budget should take place earlier in the session; but while pleading for that arrangement in the future, I would express my warm appreciation of the convincing arguments by which the right hon. Gentleman has just proved that the complaints alleged in the other parts of the Amendment were unsubstantial and groundless. The Amendment was, on the whole, contrived to convey a wrong impression to the people of India that the House of Commons is wanting in that sympathy and attention to which the interests of India are entitled at its hands. The mischief of such misrepresentation is not felt within this House or by the British public; but, Mr. Speaker, in India, where the people are not acquainted with the modes of Parliamentary procedure, the prevalence of such a notion is apt to be very harmful. I would therefore express my sincere thanks to the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Wolverhampton for having in such a masterly manner vindicated this House against the charges implied in the Amendment. His defence of the system of Indian administration will make it apparent to the people in India that there is no neglect of the supervision which this Parliament may be rightly expected to exercise over their affairs, and will be regarded with satisfaction as an effective answer to the complaints that both their own administrators and Parliament neglected any of their legitimate duties to secure the welfare of our Indian Empire. Turning to the financial statement which the Secretary of State has laid before the House this afternoon, the announcement of the surplus of over Rx. 4,700,000 which the Budget shows is one on which the Government and people of India ought to be congratulated. When in the course of his speech last year the noble Lord predicted that, with the disappearance of the famine, a solid surplus was likely to result in the ensuing twelve months, the statement was doubted and challenged by those who are always ready to find fault with the responsible administrators of India. They insisted that the condition of the people was rendered so helpless, and the recuperative power of the country so exhausted, by British rule, that the effects of the famine would be permanent, or endure for many years. It has not taken long to explode these fallacies, and I rejoice to be able to congratulate the noble Lord on his prediction coming true. To this pleasant feature of Indian prospects may be added the announcement made within the last day or two of the modification in our frontier policy which Lord Curzon had determined upon. He had, after close study of the question, found out that, for the present at least, there was no longer any need to construct large fortifications to be manned by permanent garrisons. The new arrangements would inspire confidence in the hill-men and bring them under our friendly control. As tribal Militia Corps they will prove serviceable for the protection of the frontier, and a large annual saving to the Indian Exchequer would be the result. It has been stated that this is a departure from the present Government's frontier policy, but there is nothing in these arrangements to preclude us from adopting active measures for the defence of our frontier should occasion arise in the future. Lord Curzon has grasped the situation in a statesmanlike manner without disregarding the necessity of an effective frontier defence, and in deciding at the same time upon measures which would result in a large saving to the finances of India, he has rendered signal service both to England and to India. The anxiety which has been caused by the failure of the monsoon rains in western and central India has been to some extent relieved by the news received this morning that there had been some rainfall in those areas within the last day or two. The record surplus of the year, and the large saving which will be further effected by the frontier arrangements I have just noticed, may be contemplated with enhanced satisfaction in face of the possible prospect of another period of scarcity. Should such a calamity again arise, these conserved resources, and the experience of the last famine administration, will no doubt enable the Indian Government to cope with it successfully. But let me express the hope that our fears of a new famine may prove untrue, and that no such dire visitation is in store for the poor, patient people who have already suffered so much. During the past few months the attention of the Viceroy's Government has

Sir Mancherjee Bhownaggree.

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been directed to a change in the Municipal Corporation of the town of Calcutta. Since the subject was discussed in this House at the commencement of the session, the Bill has been referred back to the Bengal Government on the ground that "the Government of India have been led, after a careful and independent investigation, to think that there are features in Sir Alexander Mackenzie's Bill which are not in entire accordance with the principles just laid down, and which might not in practice ensure that amicable and patriotic co-operation of all parties in the future municipal government of the city which is essential to its efficient administration." On this ground it is prudent of Lord Curzon to have desired to effect a change in the original measure. Another object of the reference is to create "a strict balance and equality of interest between the European and native elements." This is an unfortunate phrase, as pointing to race distinctions; but evidently, as they themselves define in another part of their letter of the 17th June last, which gives cover to the reference, what the Government of India mean is a proper adjustment of the various interests of the town which are entitled to municipal representation. European and native interests are not, and ought not to be, distinct or distinguishable in India. The interests of both are the common interests of India. I wish this to be recognised in relation to all measures in India, and I trust that the Amendments which are to be made in the original Bill will be of such a character as to give adequate representation in the municipal administration of Calcutta to all those interests and sections of its inhabitants which are justly aspiring to it, in such proportion as their relative strength in numbers and intelligence and tax-paying capacity taken together can claim. In approaching the subject of the motion which is on the Paper in my name, I feel I must offer an apology to the House for recurring to a subject similar to the one which I brought to its sympathetic notice last year. But so much has been done, since I first mooted it, to advance the purpose I had in view, that it has reached a stage when further considerations and suggestions regarding it might be profitably discussed. When I first advocated the promotion of technical and industrial education in India, I was attacked by certain people as seeking to aim a blow at higher education. It was said that I wished to turn the rising generation of India into mere intelligent carpenters or bricklayers or craftsmen of some sort, instead of allowing them to become full-blown politicians, and to derive all those positions and profits which high education is supposed to confer. This malicious misrepresentation of my purpose and views has, however, even in the brief space of a few months, been exploded. The people of India have found out that neither I nor any hon. Member in this House ever intended to attack the cause of higher education, and that our aim was to consider in what channels that education should be directed in future so as to make it subserve the best interests of India. Many of those even who had so far regarded education as an exclusive means for the attainment of political ends, have been converted to the view that it would have other more beneficial uses if it could be made to develop the industrial energy of their countrymen. Some of these very men have, within the last few months, written treatises on the subject, and others have offered to subscribe munificently to projects which are designed to divert education from its present purely literary or academic ends into channels of practical utility. This is all very gratifying. But that which is likely to prove of the greatest value to the furtherance of this cause, on which the future prosperity of India must mainly depend, is the policy which Lord Curzon has enunciated almost from the day he set foot on Indian soil, of giving ample opportunities to her people to acquire scientific and technical training, in order to encourage among them the growth of industrial pursuits. In the passage of the Bill for imposing countervailing duties on bounty-fed sugar, the Viceroy supported that measure on the very just grounds that it was necessary to save a great indigenous industry from threatened destruction, and called forth the unanimous approval of the country by his declaration that by that and other measures he meant to give practical effect to the speeches which he had made for the encouragement of native enterprise. And it is with the view of signifying our appreciation of the policy announced in this and other utterances, and our desire to see it put into active operation that I have placed this

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motion on the Paper to-night,—"That this House highly approves of the policy advocated by His Excellency Lord Curzon of Kedleston to further the development of industrial and technical education in the Indian Empire, and trusts that immediate practical effect will be given to that policy by the establishment of scientific and technical departments in the existing schools, and of polytechnic institutions, in the larger towns of India, as well as by holding out special facilities to industrial projects." In the prevailing system of education in India there is an almost entire absence of practical and technical instruction. It is now generally recognised that this is a great drawback, and that the money and labour spent thereon have not been adequately compensated by the results achieved. In fact, those results have proved detrimental to the growth of that spirit of industrial enterprise and pursuits without which no country can prosper, and the time has arrived when measures for the prosecution of a more solid and profitable teaching can no longer be delayed. This can be done in various ways. In the first place, schools of forestry, like the one at Dehra, in Northern India, which has turned out some men who have distinguished themselves by the excellence of their practical investigations into some of the most difficult questions of forestry, should be multiplied. Secondly, wherever practicable, polytechnic and industrial schools should be established in the principal towns, and if sufficient funds for the purpose are not available, it might be possible to get over the difficulty by attaching to existing schools and colleges classes or departments for scientific and technical instruction, on the model of some of the high schools here and in other European countries. Thirdly, with a view to give Indian manufacturers and artisans opportunities of becoming acquainted with the results of kindred industries in different parts of the country, and of giving due encouragement to them for improvement and progress in their several crafts by means of competitive prizes, a central industrial exhibition board should be formed. Fourthly, Government should, by means of certain concessions and offers of patronage and other facilities, encourage the first Indian manufacturers of articles hitherto imported from foreign countries. Fifthly, prizes, that is, university diplomas and degrees and official appointments, should be granted as freely to men trained in practical schools as to literary scholars; and a few scholarships, like those at present awarded to capable students for studying in the universities, or for professions, in England, should be made available for persons who desire to receive technical instruction in Europe. These, Mr. Speaker, are some of the measures by which the Government of India can give effect to the policy which Lord Curzon has wisely advocated. Some of them have before now been strongly recommended to Government for adoption. A series of eight resolutions, formulated with great skill by men of ability and of critical knowledge of the economic products and material needs of India like Sir Edward Buck, based on the proceedings of the agricultural conferences of 1893 and 1895–96, were issued as recently as in 1897, and they embody similar suggestions in respect of agricultural instruction. They properly lay stress upon this dictum of Professor Huxley, that a system of teaching which does nothing for the faculty of observation, which trains neither the eye nor the hand, and is compatible with utter ignorance of the commonest natural truths, may naturally be regarded as strangely imperfect. They point to the necessity of founding technical instruction on a preliminary training of a practical character in primary and secondary schools, so that students might be encouraged to seek advanced education in that direction as they grow up, and be prepared to assimilate such further teaching. What is true of agricultural education as thus enunciated is equally true of technical instruction in connection with other industries. This furnishes the starting point for the prosecution of Lord Curzon's new educational project, which can be fostered by the suggestions I have already made, and many others with which I have at present no time to deal. I recognise fully that, more than Government themselves, the people for whose benefit I plead for this departure in the educational system of India have a responsibility to recognise and duties to undertake. But the people of India have been accustomed to look to Government for guidance, and I maintain that in this matter especially it is for the Government to initiate the necessary reform. Let them impress on the people the benefits of sound practical and industrial instruc-

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tion and pursuits, and by holding out due encouragement and the stimulus of prizes and offices, make this new educational development "fashionable." If they do this, it will be found in a very few years that the intelligent people of India will not be slow to appreciate its advantages, and that the munificent liberality of the native chiefs and India's opulent citizens will not be withheld from a movement which is rich in promise for that country's welfare. I thank the House for allowing me to engage its attention at some length in a matter which, perhaps, is not of immediate concern to it; but on this one night in the year, when India's interests come under its general purview, I thought I could better utilise my opportunity for doing substantial service to that country by dwelling on this important subject, than by retailing any of those hackneyed grievances which naturally tire the patience of hon. Members. The task Lord Curzon has set his hands to will be of incalculable good to India in future; he will have, in accomplishing it, many obstacles to overcome, possibly much opposition to encounter; and, although his own powerful personality and the influence of his high position may be depended upon to carry it to a successful issue, it is due to him that an expression of approval should be uttered in Parliament with regard to it. With this object, Mr. Speaker, I placed on record the motion which stands in my name, and I rejoice to note that the noble Lord the Secretary of State has signified his concurrence with my views in the course of his speech, and also that the House evinces its appreciation of the policy to which I have been permitted to draw its attention.

*MR. PICKERSGILL (Bethnal Green, S.W.): I have given notice to move, "That the separation of judicial from executive duties in India is imperatively and urgently necessary in the interest of the administration of justice." I am sorry that by the forms of the House I cannot move this Amendment, but I desire to say a few words in regard to it. What I complain of is this, that in India the thief-catcher and the revenue collector is also judge. No doubt the functions of a detective or policeman are eminently useful and necessary, but, so far as I know, they do not tend to develop the judicial faculties; and when the very same person who has hunted down an alleged criminal may forthwith ascend the judgment seat and try the prisoner, I say it is a case so gross that it hardly requires argument to condemn it. And yet that is to a large extent the system which prevails in India. The head of the police for a district has jurisdiction to try, and does, in fact, try, either in person or through his immediate subordinate, offences for which the maximum punishment of two years' imprisonment, with the equivalent of hard labour, can be imposed. That is the existing system, and I desire to see it changed. We should establish in India one chain of subordination for judicial duty, and another chain for executive duty, and these two should not commingle, but run along parallel lines. A distinguished barrister in India has drawn up a list of cases illustrating the evils of the present system. I do not propose to bring them forward, for it must be evident to every one that such a system must poison the springs of justice. What can be said on the other side? Briefly, a year or two ago, Sir Charles Elliott, a distinguished advocate of the existing system, defended it in an elaborate article, in which he said that all power should be centred in the hands of a single official. My answer to that is, that there may be stages of society in which the union of the judicial and executive functions may be necessary, or at least expedient. I am not anxious to deny, it is not part of my case to deny, that there may be backward and primitive parts in India to which the system I am attacking may be well adapted; but what I do say, with all the force of conviction, is, that so far as the great mass of the people and the major part of the territory of India are concerned, the existing system is an anachronism, and fertile in mischief. Sir Charles Elliott says truly that as a matter of fact the district officer himself tries very few criminal cases, but they are, for the most part, tried by magistrates who are directly subordinates of the officer of the district. My answer to that is, that the exceptional cases which he himself tries are the very last which he should try, because they are cases in which a certain amount of political feeling is aroused. I understand that those who are responsible for Indian affairs have not for some years defended the system on its merits, but their objection to the substitution of an alternative plan is based upon financial grounds. I believe that Lord Kimberley said that if the

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functions were differentiated, we should require to double the staff.

SIR H. H. FOWLER: Hear, hear.

*MR. PICKERSGILL: I am surprised the right hon. Gentleman should endorse that statement, for it goes much further than anything advanced by Sir Charles Elliott, who admits that the desired change could be effected in half the districts in Bengal by a rearrangement of duties. A distinguished Civil servant has drawn up an elaborate and definite scheme by which a complete separation between the judicial and executive functions in Bengal could be effected at the cost of the appointment of only twenty or thirty additional deputy collectors. I do think we are entitled to ask that that scheme should be carefully examined. I am afraid that the evidence is overwhelming, that, as presently constituted, the police of India are rapacious and corrupt. If the district officer was relieved of his judicial functions he would have more time to devote to the management and control of the police. I have for many years devoted the closest attention to Indian affairs, and I have noted with great regret that of recent years the executive officers in India, from the highest to the lowest grades, have shown a growing impatience of legal restraints. That is very significant, because it is altogether alien to the genius of Englishmen. The sense of law and the love of law are more deeply engrained in Englishmen than in any other nation, with the exception, perhaps, of the ancient Romans; and when we see this impatience of the restraints of law it is a more serious mark of the deterioration of character than it would be in the case of other nationalities. Attention has lately been drawn in this House and in another place to gross assaults committed by soldiers and civilians of a low class upon Indians. Well, the authorities in India are taking steps to put down these assaults. I am sure that they are honestly anxious to do so, but I think that if the reign of law is to be re-established in India we must begin at the top. Respect for law must be enforced on the heads of the Revenue Department, upon the Governors of provinces, and upon the Secretary of State himself. There have been some cases in which in the highest quarters there has been the grossest disregard of the restraints of the law in India. A few years ago Sir Charles Elliott claimed to call to account the Judicial Bench in Bengal. That was an extraordinary step for an English executive officer to take, and if it had been done in the Transvaal a good deal would have been heard about it; but two wrongs do not make a right, and I should condemn as strongly as any man any interference with judicial independence in the Transvaal. But we ought to set our own house in order. In the second case there was an arrest on railway property in the territory of the Nizam of a person who it was alleged had committed an offence at Simla, and when the matter came before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council they came to the conclusion that the arrest was illegal, and set the decision aside. The most regrettable part of the case was that it appeared that the arrest of this man purported to be effected under what is called a notification of the Governor-General in Council. The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council declared that that notification was not worth the paper it was written upon. Again, only a few months ago there was a very important case before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, in which the Judicial Committee declared that the Government of Madras had been wrong throughout. Lastly there was the case to which the hon. Member referred, the case of the Natus, in which the Secretary of State was himself concerned. In that case there were two points: first, the point with regard to the property which was taken, with regard to which it was admitted that the Government's action was in part illegal, and the property was subsequently restored; and the second point, which was a personal one, the imprisonment and detention of the Natus. That detention, perhaps, might have been justified under the regulation of 1827; but even if it were, it would appear from the words of the regulation itself that it goes only to this—that persons cannot be placed under restraint without an ultimate view to judicial proceedings. I submit there must be an intention to take judicial proceedings within a reasonable time. Here the Natus have been imprisoned for more than two years, and they ought to be brought to trial or set at liberty. In conclusion, I hope that the noble Lord will be willing to give Mr. Dutt's detailed

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scheme his very careful attention, because I am firmly convinced that the administration of justice in India is intimately concerned with the carrying out of this reform.

*SIR ALFRED HICKMAN (Wolverhampton, W.) called attention to the practice of the Indian authorities of purchasing railway material in America instead of this country. An account furnished to him by the courtesy of the noble Lord showed a variety of material purchased in America, not only at lower prices, but with much quicker delivery than could be obtained in this country. He admitted that if something was wanted quickly which could not be obtained in this country, the Indian authorities were justified in getting it wherever it was to be obtained; but he pointed out that with a little foresight the extreme hurry, in most cases, might be avoided. It was not to be presumed that because the price was lower the American article was necessarily the cheaper. In the case of some locomotives purchased from England and America for a Japanese railway it was found that after six months' wear the fire-boxes of the American engines began to give out, and the engines had to be laid up for repairs after having run only 7,000 miles. The English engines, on the other hand, ran 150,000 miles before any repairs were necessary. It was found that the American engines cost £300 a year in coal more than those which were sent out from England. It was perfectly true that America could supply locomotives with much more celerity than the manufacturers of this country, for the reason that American locomotives were made by machinery to certain standard patterns. All the parts were interchangeable, and were kept in stock; if an engine was required all they had to do was to put the parts together. In his opinion, the English hand-made locomotives, in the matter of wear and consumption of fuel, were far cheaper than the American by much more than the difference in price. The American bridges, like the locomotives, were made to standard patterns, but in England the engineers designed each bridge differently. If the circumstances were fully realised, and English engineers would aim at uniformity and suit the convenience of the bridge makers, they would hear very little of American bridges being made more quickly or supplied at cheaper rates than English bridges.

MR. PERKS (Lincolnshire, Louth) drew attention to a question which was greatly exercising the minds of the Scotch Presbyterians and the English Wesleyans, namely, the defective arrangements made by the Indian authorities for the religious service of men of these persuasions. He said an absolute requisition had been laid down in the recommendations to the Indian Government that it should make provision for religious services for all the soldiers in the British Army. The soldiers were classified into four groups—Church of England, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, and Wesleyans—and up to a recent date the churches provided by the British Government in India had been used, not only for the services of the Church of England, but for Presbyterian and Wesleyan services also. The Government churches were in no sense established, because in India the Established Church did not exist. But the arrangement had not been altogether a satisfactory one. Before a church could be used for other services, the convenience of the Anglican Church had to be consulted, embracing as it did the largest proportion of the troops serving in the British Army. But it not infrequently happened that Scotch Presbyterian regiments were ordered down to the military station, the men of which desired to worship according to the tenets of their own faith. It had been found impossible to make definite provision for such regiments, with the result that they had had to worship in the open air. Indeed, in Northern India there were sometimes ten or eleven Scotch regiments, many of the men with wives and children, and they could not sit down contentedly, nor could the Wesleyan soldiers, under the present system. Profound annoyance was felt among the officers and men, and recently the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland was roused to a state of great excitement on this subject. He trusted that the noble Lord would find some relief for what was seriously complained of.

COLONEL SANDYS (Lancashire, Bootle) said he desired to bring two points to the attention of the noble Lord the Secretary of State. The first was the

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want of efficiency in native regiments, owing to the paucity of British officers. In times of peace no doubt the number of officers on the establishment was sufficient, but in times of war they were quite insufficient for the duties they had to perform. He suggested that native battalions should be divided into four strong companies, and that two British officers as captains, and two as subalterns, should be attached to each company. The second point to which he drew attention was the recruiting for the Gurkha regiments. There were no native soldiers who had covered themselves with more glory or were more trusted by their officers than the Gurkhas, but they were limited in numbers, their country was a small one, and for that and other reasons it became more difficult every year to secure the requisite number of recruits. But there were other hill districts in India inhabited by extremely brave, loyal military races, of whose capacity he could speak from personal experience. Those men felt being left out in the cold when recruits for the Army were needed, and he suggested that the Gurkha regiments might very well be augmented by enlistments from a district inhabited by men of the same race.

MR. KIMBER (Wandsworth) asked the Secretary of State for India, with regard to the proposed currency legislation, whether it was meant, by the expression that the rupee was to be taken at the value of 1s. 4d., that contracts made in India expressed in sterling terms might be liquidated by the legal tender of fifteen rupees per pound sterling. He understood that while the Government was willing to give fifteen rupees for one pound sterling, it was not to be bound to sell at that rate. In other words, fifteen rupees were not to be legal tender for a sovereign. If that was correct, a promissory note payable in India might be liquidated by the tender of fifteen rupees per pound sterling, but the payee, if he wished it, could not have sovereigns for his silver. That appeared to involve an anomaly. With reference to the question of the chiefship of Kythal, on which he had a motion on the Paper as follows:

"That, having regard to certain petitions from the late Chief of Arnowli and from several thousands of the inhabitants of the Cis Sutlej territory in the Punjab presented to Parliament and praying inquiry, and having regard to the printed Return, dated 11th February, 1896, to an address and to the facts recorded therein, this House is of opinion that the Government of India should be advised by the Secretary of State for India to restore the Chiefship of Kythal in the person of the present head of the Bhaikean family (the eldest son of the late Chief of Arnowli), with territory sufficient to maintain that Chiefship in its former rank as one of the four principal Cis Sutlej States."

he asked the noble Lord to inform the House in what position the case now stood.

*MR. J. H. ROBERTS (Denbighshire, W.): I desire to call attention to a few of the salient points with regard to the Municipal Government of Calcutta. Some six months ago I drew attention to this question by moving an Amendment to the reply to the Queen's Speech. At that time a municipal Bill was being considered by a Select Committee, and I pointed out some of the objectionable features of that measure; and as I received an assurance from the noble Lord opposite that he would consider all I had said I did not consequently divide the House upon that occasion. Since that date the Bill to which I refer has gone through the Select Committee of the Bengal Legislative Council, has been amended, and referred for consideration to the Government of India. The Government of India conveyed to the Legislative Council their opinion of the measure and Amendments made. My object this evening is threefold. First of all I call attention to the fact that the Bill introduced previously and criticised by myself and others six months ago has been in connection with many of its most important provisions vetoed in India. The scheme proposed by Lord Curzon is no better, but considerably worse than a Bill which was introduced six months ago. There are two points for the House to keep in mind, first of all the present constitution of Calcutta, and second the proposed alteration of that constitution. The municipal body of Calcutta is composed of seventy members—fifty being elected members and twenty members nominated by the Government. There is also a central body of eighteen, twelve of whom are elected and six nominated. The essential feature of that scheme is that the influence exercised by

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the representative element, as against the nominated element, is in the ratio of two to one, and the same ratio obtains with regard to the executive committee of the Corporation. The Viceroy proposes to change the constitution, reducing the number of representatives to fifty, twenty-five of whom are to be nominated by the Government, and in the same way reducing the executive committee to twelve, eight of whom are to be elected out of the Corporation and four to be nominated by the Government. From that it is clear that the native Indian population of Calcutta will elect rather less than one half of the whole body, and the other portion, rather more than half, will be elected by Government officials and European residents. The native ratepayers will have less than one half of the representation on the Corporation and only a third of the representation of the executive committee, and in that case the native population would be helpless either to regulate or to resist taxation. If this scheme is carried out the result will be to practically withdraw from Calcutta that measure of self-government which has worked so well for the last twenty-three years; it would be far better to strip the constitution of every fragment of its representative element than to give the semblance of self-government without giving the reality in any way. I want to place before the House one or two considerations that have been brought forward by the Government of India in favour of the proposed change. It was said that the Corporation was too large, to which my reply is that the number can be reduced without destroying the representative character of the Corporation. Then it was said that not sufficient interest was taken in municipal affairs by the native population, and that only two and a half per cent. voted in the municipal elections. First of all that depends upon the franchise, and secondly upon the number of contested elections, and here I would point out that if you take the City of London only 10 per cent. of a population of five millions take part in the elections of the London County Council, and with regard to London the same argument might be brought forward with regard to that institution as is brought forward by the Government in regard to Calcutta. The third point brought forward on behalf of the proposal of Lord Curzon by the Government of India is that the solution of the difficulty would be found in creating a balance between the interests of the European population preponderating in wealth, and those of the native population preponderating largely in numbers. In the first place I should like to say that it is not true that European interest and wealth largely preponderates in Calcutta, and further I would like to make this comment. I do not think municipal government has to do directly with the commerce of a State but rather with the conditions of life under which the people of the country live and carry on their work. I am quite ready to admit with regard to Calcutta and other states in India that distinctions may be drawn as to the condition of municipal life; but I lay down as a principle that if the rights of municipal government be given at all to any state those rights must be accompanied by a state of things which assures that the ratepayers who predominate in number should have a preponderating influence in the municipality, otherwise self-government should be entirely withdrawn. It has been said that the present proposal has been made upon the Bombay model. I wish to point out in the first place that Calcutta has a more liberal constitution than Bombay, and if that constitution has worked satisfactorily on the whole and answered its purpose during the last twenty-three years it should not be withdrawn or altered for the sake of bringing it into line with the constitution of Bombay. There is no reason why we should adopt such a system as prevails there, which has not been a great success, and discard a form of constitution at Calcutta which has worked satisfactorily in the past. In conclusion, I desire to make a practical suggestion, and that is that there should be a postponement of the settlement of this matter for some months, and that a committee of five—two natives, two Europeans, and a chairman, selected by the Government—should be appointed to make an inquiry during the winter into the practical abuses to which the present constitution of Calcutta is exposed, and to submit amendments to remedy the defects, without withdrawing from that city the right of self-government. Lord Curzon has in a marked degree won for himself the sympathy, confidence, and affection of the Indian people, and it would be very regrettable if it should fall to his lot to have to put

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his seal to a measure which was foredoomed to failure.

*Mr. WYLIE (Dumbartonshire): I desire to make a few remarks upon some of the points raised by my right hon. friend the Secretary of State for India. Last year the Debate on the Indian currency resulted in a Committee being appointed to deal with that question. This year there was also a Debate on the Indian Tariffs Act, and the result of it was that that Act was confirmed by a very large majority in this House. I was very much surprised that the hon. Member for Bolton made disparaging remarks in connection with this question, but I was still more surprised that the right hon. Gentleman the Member for East Wolverhampton, whose conduct of affairs has resulted in very great benefit to India as well as credit to himself, should have led the attack against these countervailing duties on sugar, because they are a continuation of his own policy. In 1893, the Government of which the right hon. Gentleman was a member closed the Indian mints to silver, a very wise and statesmanlike action, but still, in the opinion of many so-called Free Traders, a far more drastic infringement of the fundamental principles of free trade than the countervailing duties in question. In 1894 the right hon. Gentleman strongly recommended the imposition of countervailing excise duties in order to give British manufacturers a fair field and no favour in India, and why he objects to countervailing duties upon sugar in order to give a fair field and no favour to native manufacturers against bounty-fed foreign competition is more than I can understand. It is fortunate for the sugar industry of India that the right hon. Gentleman's successor took a much sounder view, and the admirable speech which he delivered on that occasion showed that he possessed not only a strong grasp of details, but also of the fundamental principles of Free Trade, and the result of that Debate has been that the sugar industry of India is now being conducted on what are practically Free Trade lines. The noble Lord the Secretary of State for India is to be heartily congratulated upon his appointment of such an able and industrious Committee in connection with the Indian currency. This Committee has examined forty-nine witnesses, and the result of its labours has been presented to the House in two large volumes and a masterly Report on the subject. Some hon. Members in this House are inclined to disparage Royal Commissions and Committees appointed to investigate special subjects, but I can safely affirm that this Report is one of the most important and useful Reports which has been presented to the House for many years; and in addition to the immediate purpose which it will serve, I believe it will be a source of information upon many important subjects connected with the trade and commerce of India for some years to come. Therefore the members of this Committee deserve the very greatest credit, especially the right hon. Gentleman the Member for East Wolverhampton, who acted as chairman, and whose large experience of Indian business made him particularly fitted for that purpose; and he was also very ably assisted by the energetic secretary, Mr. Chalmers, of the Treasury, whose services, I was glad to see, were so fully acknowledged in the Report. The evidence of two witnesses is especially deserving of attention—I allude to Mr. Alfred de Rothschild, and to Mr. O'Conor, the head of the Statistical Department in India, whose able mastery of all the facts connected with Indian business served the Committee in good stead and enabled them to dispel many of those illusions which have been so long current in many circles regarding questions of trade and commerce. The finding of this Committee has been to confirm the determination of the Indian Government not to revert to the silver standard, but to keep the Mint closed. They also recommend the establishment of a gold standard, and hope that effective measures will be taken to secure that change. They propose that the British sovereign shall be coined in India and made legal tender, that the mints shall be opened to the free coinage of gold and only to a very limited extent of silver, and that the value of the rupee shall be 1s. 4d. These recommendations have been confirmed by the Secretary of State for India, and by the Indian Government, who will act upon them immediately. This has been a disappointment to some bimetallists, because they recognise the great importance of India as a lever for inducing this country to enter into an international bimetallic arrangement. I am glad to know that a large section

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of the bimetallists concur with the monometallists in those findings, which will relieve India of the pressure of free silver, and place her on an equality with the gold standard countries with which more than four-fifths of her business is transacted. As to the further measures for the effectual establishment of a gold standard, I was very pleased to see that in the instructions of the Secretary for India to the Viceroy there was one calling his particular attention to the recommendation in the separate Report of Mr. Hambro with regard to the improvement and concentration of banking facilities. This, in my opinion, is a most judicious and important instruction to the Viceroy, to consider what is in effect a recommendation for the establishment in India of a State Bank on somewhat similar lines to those of either the Bank of England or the Bank of France. In India at the present time there are three Presidency Banks—the Bank of Bengal, the Bank of Bombay, and the Bank of Madras, which are isolated institutions, each serving a separate region, and prohibited from undertaking business within the sphere of either of the others. With their restricted capital they are inadequate for the expanding needs of trade, are unable to regulate the rate of discount and to prevent violent oscillations, and instead of being a support to the Government, as the Bank of England is here, they constantly look to the Government for support, and in times of monetary pressure have generally no money available beyond the permanent balances. The isolation of these banks is an anachronism, a relic of the old times, when there were no railways or telegraphs and no internal trade, and Bombay, Madras, and Calcutta were three isolated points on the coast from which three almost independent administrative systems were conducted. Even had there been no change in the currency of India, it was high time to change this obsolete system and to have one great bank for the whole country resting on a wider basis of capital and credit; and to carry out in the most advantageous manner the proposed change to a gold standard the introduction of such a bank is absolutely necessary, and this is a most opportune time for doing so. The object to be aimed at is the introduction into India in a cheap and convenient way of the gold which is essential to maintain the gold standard effectively. An adequate gold reserve is wanted at starting, and a method which would secure the free flow of gold into the country as well as out of it when need arises; and, in my opinion, this object could be best attained by means of a State Bank with a large sterling capital, which I would prefer to see arranged on lines similar to those of the Bank of England, which is more in accordance with the scope and freedom of British institutions than the Bank of France. Mr. Alfred de Rothschild, who has given most valuable evidence before the Committee on this point, which I would commend to the special attention of hon. Members, thinks that the capital might be the same as that of the Bank of England, viz., £14,000,000; but I think that, seeing that the imports into India and the exports from it to a certain extent balance each other, and that most of the payments are made by bills of exchange, a capital of £10,000,000, say, with £6,000,000 paid up and £4,000,000 uncalled, would be ample. Under such an arrangement the Bank of India would possess all the privileges of the Bank of England, including the right to issue notes marked with their sterling and rupee value, and to pay either in gold or silver, the latter, of course, according to the recommendation of the Committee, retaining its full legal tender capacity.

MR. KIMBER: At whose option?

*MR. WYLIE: The bank's. Under ordinary circumstances the bank would pay in gold if demanded, and only under abnormal conditions, indicating a prospect of large withdrawals of gold for export, would it resort to the raising of the rate of discount for the protection of its gold reserve. The advantages of such a bank would be very great. In the first place it would be a consolidation and extension of the three Presidency Banks on a broader, more stable, and sterling basis. It would, of course, do no exchange business, but would confine itself to such business as is done by them. A large amount of gold would be immediately provided by private enterprise, thus avoiding the necessity of burdening the country with a Government loan. It would bring in the gold and be able to keep it in the country and in circulation

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profitably employed in trade and commerce, whereas the Government would be obliged to lock it up unfructuously. It would provide much more effective machinery for the conduct of operations connected with the effective maintenance of a gold currency and other banking functions, than by any official Department wrought by the Government. It would maintain as steady a rate of discount as on this side, because it would be able to issue notes in India, against any amount deposited in the Bank of England (which would act as its agent here), on receipt of telegraphic advice. And above all it would establish absolute confidence in the minds of the public as to the safety and permanence of the gold standard, and as to the credit of the bank, because they would know that the Government would come to the rescue of the bank if there was any danger of its gold being taken away, and such knowledge would be quite sufficient to obviate the necessity for taking actual steps under this provision, and this confidence would immensely encourage the flow of British capital into India which is so much needed for the development of that country. And I hope that the Secretary for India will see that his instructions on this point are carried out as soon as possible. Some critics have referred to minor defects, but in the face of the great and predominating result which has been secured by the action of the Secretary of State for India, viz. :—that all possibility of doubt as to the determination of the Government to take measures for the effective establishment of a gold standard has been removed. All the alleged minor defects sink into insignificance in comparison. The establishment of a gold standard will do great things for India. It will prevent the currency of India from being overwhelmed by the flow of silver into that country from all parts of the world, which would have reduced the value of the rupee to 9d. or 10d.; it will give the Imperial Exchequer very reasonable prospects of a surplus, and it will greatly increase the imports and exports of the country; and, above all, it will give that confidence to the British public which is necessary to induce the flow of capital into India. I will just give one example. The Viceroy, in an admirable speech which he delivered at the opening of an extension of some irrigation works in the Punjaub this year, said that the ground on which he was then speaking, which now has the appearance of a flourishing town, and possesses a large market for agricultural produce, was four years ago a barren and uninhabited jungle. The value of the crops there in a single year was equal to the total cost of those irrigation works. The interest paid on the money was 10½ per cent. With such large prospects, and with the stability which the gold standard will give to the monetary condition of India, we may expect that there will be a great flood of British capital into India. There are more than 100,000,000 acres of cultivable land in that country not cultivated at the present time. The sugar industry occupies about 3,000,000 acres. Now that it has been freed from the threat of extinction by bounty fed sugar, it is highly probable that British capital will be induced to take up this enterprise, to clear away the unprofitable and obsolete methods of cultivation and refining which now exist, and make it a great industry of the country in future. This is only one of a thousand different ways in which British capital will come to the aid of Indian trade and commerce. India has hitherto been like a business perfectly solvent, but stinted for lack of capital, and with a bad financial system necessitating the payment of exorbitant interest even for the limited capital at its disposal. The newly acquired right to employ the sovereign as a legal tender virtually brings India into partnership with the wealthiest country in the world, which will provide the requisite capital, and whose credit will entirely revolutionise the financial system of India, and elevate her to a foremost position amongst the gold standard countries of the world. Her greatest general has not done half as much for the prosperity of India as will be accomplished by this peaceful act, the rapid achievement of which has been due in large measure to the great ability, energy, and tact of the right hon. Gentleman whose tenure of office it will mark as one of the most auspicious in the annals of the Empire.

*MR. KESWICK (Surrey, Epsom): I desire to call attention to an important matter in connection with the revenue of India. There was a feeling in the House that a pledge was given that when an

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improvement in the exchange admitted of it, the impost of duty on imports should be removed. I only rise therefore to express in a few words the hope that that promise will be borne in mind. I am aware that at the present time it is too early to have an assured opinion on the success of bimetallism founded on what is called a gold standard, but I think it will accomplish a very great work. Therefore, bearing in mind what was promised when the duties on imports were imposed, I hope the success of this financial measure will bring about in due time the removal of those duties.

SIR H. H. FOWLER: I do not propose to occupy the attention of the House for more than a few minutes, but I think it is due to the noble Lord, not only on account of his Budget statement, but also on account of his reference to the proposed change in the currency, that one word or two should be said on the Opposition side of the House; and even at the risk of exposing oneself to the accusation of saying polite and courteous things to him, I will, nevertheless, not as a matter of courtesy or politeness, but as an utterance of sincerity, express my admiration of the manner in which he has discharged his duty in making his financial statement. I congratulate him and the Government of India on the fact that such a statement can be made at all. The prosperity which has attended India, both financially, commercially, and agriculturally, during the last year is a matter which, I think, everybody who takes the slightest interest in India is exceedingly thankful for; and I note with considerable interest the fact that, whilst last year was a record year of deficit, this year has been a record year of surplus. The hon. Member who has just sat down has alluded to the question of relieving India from taxation. The noble Lord omitted to call attention to one paragraph in his memorandum which bears upon the question of taxation. In the last sentence he states:

"If the taxation proper be divided over the population of British India, without making any deduction on account of the portion derived from salt, excise, Customs, &c., which must fall on the inhabitants of the native States, the burden of taxation per head in the Budget for 1899-1900 is R.1 4a. 5p, which, at the exchange value of 16d. per rupee, is equal to not quite 1s. 8½d. If to this be added the amount of the land revenue, the average is raised to Rs. 2 6a. 7p., or about 3s. 2½d."

That, I think, is a very low rate of taxation in any country deriving the advantage India does from its Government. As to the remarks of the hon. Member for Epsom, I am not aware that any pledge was ever given by the Government who imposed the import duties or the Government who have modified them since that they should be the first subjects of consideration when the time arrived to deal with taxation in India. I have again and again stated that the salt duty has the first claim on the consideration of the State; but that is simply a private opinion of my own. I only put in a word of caution so that there should not be an impression prevailing that there has been any undertaking on the part of either Government as to the order in which relief of taxation should be granted. I have to thank the noble Lord and the House for the manner in which they have received the reference to the Report of the Currency Committee. I cannot forget that when that Committee was appointed many persons in and out of the House were of opinion that the Committee was not the most competent that might have been selected, and in that, perhaps, they were quite right. But there were also criticisms based on the possibility or probability that the Committee had made up their minds on the question, and that they were simply going to meet for the purpose of recording a pre-formed opinion. I think that any one who reads the evidence will see that that was not the case. I can assure the House—and I have had some little experience of Commissions and Committees—that it would be impossible to find a body of gentlemen who were more anxious to arrive at the truth and to do justice to the great interests which fell within the purview of their consideration. They had a perfectly open mind on the difficult questions submitted to them. I am bound to say I had no idea as to what was the opinion of any one of my colleagues upon the various questions until we met, and I am satisfied I am speaking for them as well as for myself when I say that our sole desire was to find out what was the best and most practical mode of dealing with the difficulty. In reference to that Report, I have only two or three remarks

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to make. The first is that the Committee studiously avoided any grappling with details. They felt that their business was to lay down certain principles, and that the details ought to be left, and must be, in the hands of the responsible Government of India. Many persons have said, "Why did you not say how this should be done?" and so on. We often discussed how the thing should be done, but we came to the conclusion that that was not our business; our business was to point out the lines on which we thought this great reform should be based. The responsible Government of India—and I include in that, of course, the Government at home and the Government at Calcutta—must be left to decide on the best mode of carrying those principles out, and also the time they may choose for the purpose. There has been considerable reference in the course of the evening to the formation of the new bank in India. There is a memorandum to which the Secretary of State referred, by Mr. Hambro, who, perhaps, is as great an authority as we could have upon such a question. I think it is due to Mr. Hambro to say that the first sentence of his Report really explains my own position. He says:

"Although I am aware that the question of the banking facilities of India was not referred to the Committee, I venture to call special attention—"

and so on. If I had not been Chairman of the Committee I should have signed the memorandum of Mr. Hambro, but I thought it would be rather irregular for a chairman to express an opinion on something which had not been referred to the Committee. I thought Mr. Hambro was perfectly justified in signing this memorandum, and, so far as I am individually concerned, I should like to assure the Secretary of State that I entirely concur in Mr. Hambro's suggestion. With reference to the question of borrowing, three very competent and able members of the Committee signed a separate memorandum objecting to borrowing for the purpose of carrying out currency reform. That must have weight, and is entitled to very great weight. The rest of the Committee did not concur in that view. Their view was expressed in the last sentence of the Report:

"It is eminently desirable that the Government of India, with whom it would rest to decide when successive steps should be taken, should husband the resources at their command, exercise a resolute economy, and restrict the growth of their gold obligations."

I need hardly say that those words were very carefully considered, and were inserted with a meaning. The meaning was that we did not desire to tie the hands of the Executive in dealing with the question. There was one other question on which the noble Lord did not say anything, possibly because he intends to lay Papers on the Table — namely, the announcement in the Press that the Viceroy, with the consent of the home authorities, has decided on the modification of frontier policy. As I understand the matter—I am quoting the words of the Viceroy:

"The proposition, if carried, will restore to the regular Army a large number of troops hitherto quartered at fortified posts in the tribal country, and will, it is hoped, result in an annual saving of many lakhs of rupees to the Exchequer."

I need hardly say that if, when we receive documents, that appears to be, as I have no doubt it is, the policy which Lord Curzon is going to carry out, it will meet with the cordial approval of some gentlemen who have expressed themselves very strongly upon questions of frontier policy. Then my hon. friend behind me, the Member for Louth, called attention to a matter which I should also like to say a word or two about, viz., the discussion which has arisen in the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and among Nonconformists generally, with reference to the change in the regulations for the uses of public buildings belonging to the Government and erected by the Government. The Principal of the University of Glasgow, who is one of the foremost Ministers in Scotland, Dr. Story, addressed a letter to *The Times* a few days ago, which doubtless many Members have read. He puts the case very clearly and

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concisely, and I should like to call the special attention of the noble Lord to the letter.

"The simple fact," says Dr. Story, "is that certain churches have been built at public expense by the Government of India for the use of the Protestant soldiers in Her Majesty's service. . . . The fact of so-called consecration and the adornment of some of these buildings by the members of the Anglican Communion cannot be held as legitimately diverting them from the original purpose for which the Government designed and erected them at public expense—viz., the accommodation of Her Majesty's Protestant troops. What the Church of Scotland demands is that this diversion shall not be allowed to continue, and that Scottish regiments shall not be forced to worship in riding schools, music-halls, schoolrooms, disused theatres, or on the parade ground under the burning sun, when a Government church is available, the exclusive use of which they do not claim, but the right to a share of the use of which they assert."

I am sure the noble Lord will not dissent from that view, and he will perhaps say something to-night to reassure both the Church of Scotland and the Nonconformists of this country that the matter is receiving his most careful consideration, and that their representations will have due weight with him. Without going into any of the religious controversies of the day, which I should wish to keep out of as far as possible, I must enter a caveat against the claim that the supreme tribunal in a matter of this sort should be the head of any Church whatever, and that we are to exchange the control of the Government of India, that is, the Secretary of State, for the Metropolitan of India. That, I think, is a position which this House would not tolerate, and to which I do not think the noble Lord will give a moment's sanction. No man respects the Bishop of Calcutta more than I do; I have the honour of his personal friendship, and I feel the greatest admiration of his character and public conduct; but this is a question of a constitutional charater, and we cannot in any way weaken or detract from the cardinal principle on which the government of India is based—namely, the absolute supremacy of the Queen in all matters, not only civil, but ecclesiastical. This is not a question affecting the people of India, but one purely affecting the Protestants and Roman Catholics. These are the only criticisms I desire to make upon the noble Lord's Budget. I congratulate him on the figures he has had to present, and the manner in which he has presented them, and I express a strong hope that there will be no return of famine, and that within a few days we may receive the welcome intelligence that the monsoon is discharging its beneficent work in the western part of India. Even if we are called upon to face scarcity or famine, I think the experience which has been derived during the last three or four years, and the admirable manner in which the famine organisation met the recent calamity, will relieve our minds of much of the anxiety which would otherwise oppress us as to what might happen. We may feel quite certain that the Government of India will be ready to grapple with that difficulty when it does arise, and the Government will receive all the support of this House and the Government at home which they will deserve under such circumstances.

*LORD G. HAMILTON: I would desire to thank the right hon. Gentleman for the kindness of his references to myself. In all matters relating to the Government of India the right hon. Gentleman has always taken care that the partisan element should not, as far as he is concerned, enter into the subject. With regard to the import duties on cotton, while I should be glad to reduce any unpopular taxation, I am not pledged in any way to consider the import duties as the first to be abolished. As regards frontier administration I did not allude to the changes which Lord Curzon has proposed, because the policy he proposed to adopt is entirely in accord with the principles of a despatch which I myself sent to India two years ago in the name of Her Majesty's Government, in which was laid down the line which the Indian Government should pursue for the future in connection with the frontier. I have in a previous Debate summed up that despatch in two words by saying that the principles it represents are concentration and conciliation. I am glad to say that Lord Curzon has thrown himself with his characteristic energy into the realisation

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of this policy, and I believe it will meet with the unanimous approval of both sides of the House. Then the right hon. Gentleman opposite went to the somewhat difficult question of the procedure which has been laid down for the use of churches in India. That is a matter to which I have given a great deal of attention, and I entirely agree that we should not allow our theological polemics here in any way to interfere with this question in India. I think if all recollections of the views held by hon. Members in regard to the Established Church here are banished, it will be found that the arrangements in India in this matter are the best possible under the circumstances. There is a mistaken idea abroad with regard to the user of these churches. It would be just about as difficult to have there a church built for all denominations as it is to have an undenominational religion here. When the Indian Government build churches they must assign them to a certain religious denomination. That is also the practice of the War Office in this country. These churches are distributed amongst the various denominations, and each particular church is absolutely under the control of the authorities of the denomination to which it is allotted, and nobody has ever dreamt that such churches should be used by other denominations without the consent of the controlling authority. In India Episcopalians form an enormous proportion of the troops. I am speaking off-hand, but I think the figures at present show that 68 per cent. are Episcopalians, 18 per cent. Roman Catholics, 8 per cent. Presbyterians, and the remaining 6 per cent. are classed as Wesleyans, that term including Baptists and other Nonconformists. I may add that the churches in question are by no means entirely constructed out of public money. In order to obtain private subscriptions to a church, in addition to the Government grant, it is almost essential that the church should be devoted to some particular denomination, and I am informed that in Northern India the relative contributions of the Government and of private subscribers, almost entirely members of the Church of England, have been as follows: in Calcutta diocese Government contributed Rs. 870,000, private subscribers Rs. 497,000; in Lucknow diocese, Government contributed Rs. 584,000, private subscribers Rs. 350,000; in Lahore diocese Government contributed Rs. 242,000, private subscribers Rs. 243,000. Two years ago I received a deputation of Presbyterian and Wesleyan ministers, who complained that there were undue restrictions in the use of certain Episcopalian churches. I replied that where the Episcopalians were in a great majority they must be consulted first, but that there might be cases in which a more conciliatory spirit would be practicable. I forwarded the representations to the Government of India, and Lord Elgin issued a fresh set of regulations. Up to that time the consent of the chaplain was necessary for the use of any church associated with the Church of England; but the new regulations issued by Lord Elgin provided that ministers of other denominations who were dissatisfied with the decision of the chaplain could appeal to the local authority, who would consult with the Bishop, and in case of disagreement the final decision was given to the local authority or the Commander-in-Chief. Lord Elgin had authority to issue those regulations without consulting the Secretary of State, and he did so; but when they reached this country the Archbishop of Canterbury and other dignitaries of the Church protested against them. The objections were sent out to the Viceroy, but in the interval two decisions had been given, and in both cases the local authority had decided against the Nonconformist claims, though the Metropolitan did not approve of those decisions. Therefore Lord Elgin's regulations did not work well, and their effect was the contrary of

Lord G. Hamilton.

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that which was intended. There is also this difficulty—that the churches associated with the Church of England have as they were built been consecrated, and it is contended that consecration gives power to the consecrating authority to determine the use of the church. If that be so it is evident that the best way of obtaining for Presbyterians and Nonconformists a more extended use of Church of England churches is by application to the responsible authority, and the Metropolitan is a man of very liberal spirit, and may be trusted to exercise liberally the powers given him by the rules now in force issued by the present Viceroy, in supersession of the rules issued by Lord Elgin's Government. As to the Presbyterian chaplains, there are not many of them, and they are permanently attached to the two or three Scottish regiments, and are consequently moving about constantly. But where there are a considerable number ef Presbyterians permanently stationed in one place it will be desirable that a church should be built for them. The House will understand that whatever difficulty has arisen in connection with these rules has not proceeded from any spirit of antagonism. There are certain legal rights which the Church of England possesses as well as the Presbyterian and the Roman Catholic Churches, and as the Episcopalians constitute by far the largest body in the community, it is only fair that they should be at least on terms of equality with members of other religions. The Presbyterians cannot expect to have churches of their own, over which they have absolute control, and demand also the use of Episcopalian churches. I assure the House that I will do my best to arrive at a satisfactory settlement, but it is impossible to come to a decision until I have received the opinion of the legal authorities I am consulting as to the legal rights which it is contended by the authorities of the Church of England are created by the ceremony of consecration. With regard to the Calcutta municipality, which was referred to by the hon. Member for the Louth Division of Lincolnshire, it is generally admitted that they talked too much and did not do their work well, and that some reform is necessary. It should be borne in mind that the sanitary condition of Calcutta is not a local, but is practically an Imperial question. It became impossible for the Government to shut their eyes to the inefficient administration that prevailed, and when it became necessary to introduce a reform, I said, in the Debate on the Address, at the beginning of the session that I would do my best to see that the representative principle was as far as possible maintained. Among the variety of suggestions, a scheme similar to that which has worked well in Bombay found favour, and this Lord Curzon has adopted. It has worked well in Bombay, and I see no reason why it should not succeed in Calcutta. I can hold out no hope of its being modified. As to the number of European officers attached to Native regiments, this is a question that has been carefully considered. In time of peace it is inadvisable to increase the number, for there would then be not enough work for the Native officers to do, who, I take the opportunity of reminding the House, have always proved themselves most efficient in warfare. Some progress has been made with a plan for organising a reserve, whereby the number of European officers could be increased in time of need. The remarks of my hon. and gallant friend the Member for Bootle, in reference to recruiting of Native regiments, will be brought to the notice of the Government of India. As to the question of the hon. Member for Wandsworth in reference to the currency proposals, I can only say that terms of sterling contracts will be enforced as now. The currency proposals will enable a debtor to tender gold instead of rupees, and I have explained this in my previous speech. As regards the remarks of the hon. Member for West Wolverhampton on American competition, I have sent him figures showing the difference in prices in English and American tenders for contracts. I sent my hon. friend these figures because I wanted the ironmasters, as well as the men they employed, to seriously consider the new form of competition with which they have to deal. There cannot be the slightest doubt that the Americans are introducing new methods of production, and every engineer connected with Indian railroads who has been over to America has been surprised at the development that has taken place there. I desire, as far as possible, and wherever I can, to

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give contracts to British firms, but I do think it is advisable that both masters and men should fully realise what progress America is making. The hon. Member for South-West Bethnal Green urged the separation of the judicial from the executive functions in certain branches of Indian administration. I do not deny that theoretically there is a great deal of force in the hon. Gentleman's contention; but, on the other hand, I am assured by very competent civilians that the present system does not work badly, and that the proposals the hon. Gentleman has put forward would entail a very heavy expenditure. I must wait until I get somewhat fuller information from the Indian Government before I can give an expression of opinion on the subject. In the course of the Debate opinions have been expressed in various quarters that the House is indifferent as to Indian questions and takes little interest in Indian subjects. I have been very many years in the House, and I do not think I have ever known a House of Commons where the interest taken in Indian questions is more intense that it is in the present House of Commons. I cannot help being struck by the pathetic admission of the hon. Baronet the Member for Banff. The hon. Baronet said that for six years he had been working away under the impression that he represented the whole of the natives of India, and that he had never succeeded in getting one single, solitary grievance he had brought forward remedied. The Press, he went on to say, public opinion, Parliament, and the India Office were all against him. How was it the hon. Baronet had not been able to get any redress for any question he had brought forward? How was it that public opinion, the House of Commons, the Press, and the India Office were all combined against him? Has it ever occurred to the hon. Baronet that his want of success is a little due to the tactics he adopts? The hon. Baronet complained that he was not a *persona grata* at the India Office. Why should he be? The hon. Baronet—I do not say intentionally—and those with whom he worked do everything in their power to stir up bad feeling against the Indian Government. I consider the hon. Baronet responsible for the fact that a paper called *India* circulated the grossest falsehoods, which are repeated a hundredfold in the Native Press. So long as the hon. Baronet associates with people who make that class of assertion, I decline to associate with him. I do not care how hard a man hits if he hits honestly and straightforwardly. A man ought to use to a man's face the same language that he uses behind his back in the Press, and if the hon. Baronet has constituted himself the leader of the opposition in this matter, and if he has failed, as he has described in so pathetic a manner, it is not due to the House of Commons or to the Press, but to the tactics which he has pursued.

Lord G. Hamilton.

Question put, and agreed to.

Considered in Committee:—

(In the Committee.)

[Mr. ARTHUR O'CONNOR (Donegal, East) in the chair.]

Resolved, That it appears by the Accounts laid before this House that the Total Revenue of India for the year ending on the 31st day of March 1898 was Rx.96,442,004; that the Total Expenditure in India and in England charged against Revenue was Rx.101,801,215; that there was an excess of expenditure over Revenue of Rx.5,359,211; and that the capital outlay on Railways and Irrigation Works not charged against revenue was Rx4,328,541.—(*Secretary Lord George Hamilton.*)

Resolution to be reported.

In pursuance of the Order of the House of the 17th day of July last, Mr. Speaker adjourned the House without Question put.

House adjourned accordingly at twenty-five minutes before Eleven of the clock.

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HOUSE OF LORDS.

Wednesday, 9th August 1899.

JUDICIAL BUSINESS.

Ordered, That this House do meet on Monday, the 13th day of November next, at Eleven o'clock, for the purpose of hearing and determining Appeals and matters connected therewith, pursuant to the provisions of the "Appellate Jurisdiction Act, 1876"; and that during such meeting of the House leave be given to the Appeal Committee to meet.

MARQUESS OF HEADFORT (CLAIM TO VOTE FOR REPRESENTATIVE PEERS FOR IRELAND).

Ordered and Directed, That a Certificate be sent by the Clerk of the Parliaments to the Clerk of the Crown in Ireland, stating that the Lord Chancellor of the United Kingdom has reported to the House of Lords that the right of the Marquess of Headfort to vote at the elections of Representative Peers for Ireland has been established to the satisfaction of him the said Lord Chancellor; and that the House of Lords has ordered such report to be sent to the said Clerk of the Crown in Ireland: And it is hereby also Ordered, That the said Report of the said Lord Chancellor be sent to the Clerk of the Crown in Ireland.

RETURNS, REPORTS, &c.

REFORMATORY AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS (IRELAND).

Thirty-seventh Report of the Inspector; presented [by Command], and ordered to lie on the Table.

FOREIGN JURISDICTION ACT, 1890.

Order in Council of 8th August, 1899, entitled, "The Ottoman Order in Council, 1899."

INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT ACTS.

Orders in Council of 8th August, 1899—

(i) giving effect to the accession of Japan to; and

(ii) giving effect to the withdrawal of Montenegro from the International Copyright Union respectively.

BRITISH SETTLEMENTS ACT, 1887, AND FOREIGN JURISDICTION ACT, 1890.

Order in Council of 8th August, 1899, entitled, "The Pacific Order in Council, 1893, Amendment Order, 1899."

WINTER ASSIZES ACT, 1876.

Seven Orders in Council, of 8th August, 1899, relating to the ensuing Winter Assizes.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1897.

Treasury Order of 19th June, 1898, regulating fees under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897.

SUPERANNUATION.

Treasury Minute, dated 3rd August, 1899, declaring that Dr. Robert J. Mitchell, Inspector of Registration, General Register Office, Ireland, was appointed without a Civil Service certificate, through inadvertence on the part of the head of his Department.

ARKLOW HARBOUR.

Report of Arklow Harbour Commissioners for 1898, and Statement of Accounts.

Laid before the House [pursuant to Act], and ordered to lie on the Table.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

Standing Order No XXXIX. considered [according to Order], and suspended for this day's sitting.

CONSOLIDATED FUND (APPROPRIATION) BILL.

Brought from the Commons, and read 1ª; then (Standing Order No. XXXIX. having been suspended) Bill read 2ª (*The Earl Waldegrave*); Committee negatived; Bill read 3ª, and passed.

House adjourned during pleasure; House resumed.

An Asterisk (*) at the commencement of a Speech indicates revision by the Member.

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ROYAL ASSENT.

COMMISSION.

The following Bills received the Royal Assent:

1. Consolidated Fund (Appropriation).
2. Bodies Corporate (Joint Tenancy).
3. University of London Act (1898) Amendment.
4. Anchors and Chain Cables.
5. Seats for Shop Assistants.
6. Summary Jurisdiction Act (1879) Amendment.
7. Isle of Man (Customs).
8. Manchester Canonries.
9. Marriages Validity (No. 2).
10. Metropolitan Police.
11. Electric Lighting (Clauses).
12. Commons and Open Spaces.
13. Improvement of Land.
14. Colonial Loans.
15. Inebriates Act (1898) Amendment.
16. Naval Works.
17. Telegraphs (Telephonic Communication).
18. Board of Education.
19. Elementary Education (Defective and Epileptic Children).
20. Poor Law Acts Amendment.
21. Royal Niger Company.
22. Land Tax Commissioners' Names.
23. Patriotic Fund.
24. Reserve Forces.
25. Military Works.
26. Lincolnshire Coroners.
27. Expiring Laws Continuance.
28. Public Works Loans.
29. Baths and Washhouses Acts Amendment.
30. Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland).
31. Agriculture and Technical Instruction (Ireland).
32. Sale of Food and Drugs.
33. Small Houses (Acquisition of Ownership).
34. Gas Orders Confirmation (No. 2).
35. Local Government Provisional Order (No. 14).
36. Tramways Orders Confirmation (No. 2).
37. Tramways Orders Confirmation (No. 3).
38. Electric Lighting Provisional Order (No. 20).
39. Education Department Provisional Order Confirmation (London).
40. Tancred's Charities Scheme Confirmation.
41. London and North-Western Railway (Additional Powers).
42. Renfrew Burgh and Harbour Extension.
43. Caledonian Railway (General Powers).
44. Aberdeen Joint Passenger Station.
45. Leigh-on-Sea Urban District Council.
46. Moss Side Urban District Council (Tramways).
47. Stretford Urban District Council (Tramways).
48. Withington Urban District Council (Tramways).
49. Weston-super-Mare, Clevedon, and Portishead Tramways Company (Light Railway Extensions).
50. Yeadon and Guiseley Gas.
51. South Staffordshire Tramways.
52. Darwen Corporation.
53. Warrington Corporation.
54. Worcestershire County Council.
55. Glasgow and South-Western Railway.
56. Great Eastern Railway (General Powers).
57. Great Yarmouth Water.
58. North-Eastern Railway.
59. North Staffordshire Railway.
60. Wolverhampton Tramways.
61. Hastings Harbour.
62. Oystermouth Railway or Tramroad.
63. Bootle Corporation.
64. Dublin Corporation (Markets).
65. London County Council (General Powers).

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66. London County Council (Money).
67. Clyde Navigation.
68. Cromer Protection.
69. Oldham Corporation.
70. North-Eastern and Hull and Barnsley Railways (Joint Dock).
71. Fylde Water Board.
72. Salford Corporation.
73. Wakefield Corporation.
74. Belfast Corporation.
75. City and Brixton Railway.
76. Gateshead and District Tramways.
77. London, Walthamstow, and Epping Forest Railway (No. 2).
78. West Metropolitan Railway.
79. Bexhill and Rotherfield Railway.
80. Birmingham, North Warwickshire, and Stratford-upon-Avon Railway.
81. London and South-Western Railway.
82. Manchester Corporation Tramways.
83. Paisley and Barrhead District Railway.
84. Portsmouth Corporation.
85. Rochdale Canal.
86. Southport and Lytham Tramroad.
87. Wolverhampton Corporation.
88. Workington Corporation.
89. North-West London Railway.
90. Brompton and Piccadilly Circus Railway.
91. Leeds Corporation.
92. Charing Cross, Euston, and Hampstead Railway.
93. Newcastle-upon-Tyne Tramways and Improvement.
94. London Improvements.
95. Harrow and Uxbridge Railway.
96. Uxbridge and Rickmansworth Railway.
97. Derwent Valley Water.
98. Bradford Tramways and Improvement.

QUEEN'S SPEECH.

Her Majesty's Most Gracious Speech was delivered to both Houses of Parliament by the Lord High Chancellor (in pursuance of Her Majesty's Commands), as followeth:—

"*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

"My relations with other Powers continue to be friendly.

"The Conference summoned by the Emperor of Russia to consider measures for promoting the maintenance of peace has completed its sittings. Although the result of its deliberations has not fully corresponded with the lofty aims which it was summoned to accomplish, it has met with a considerable measure of success. The institution of a permanent tribunal of arbitration cannot fail to diminish the frequency of war, while the extension of the Geneva Convention will mitigate its horrors.

"I have concluded a Convention with the President of the French Republic, by which the spheres of influence of the two Powers over a large portion of Northern Africa have been determined. Such an Agreement had become necessary, especially in respect to the Valley of the Nile, in consequence of the successful operations of the Anglo-Egyptian Army during last autumn.

"I have concluded an Agreement with the Emperor of Russia for regulating the conditions under which either Government will encourage the development of railway enterprise by its own subjects in China.

"I have received a Petition from a considerable number of My subjects residing in the South African Republic, praying for My assistance to obtain the removal of grievances and disabilities of which they complain. The position of My subjects in the South African Republic is inconsistent with the promises of equal treatment, on which My grant of internal independence to that Republic was founded; and the unrest caused thereby is a constant source of danger to the peace and prosperity of My Dominions in South Africa. Negotiations on this subject with the Government of the South African Republic have been entered into, and are still proceeding.

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"From My Indian Empire I have continued to receive satisfactory reports of the rapid recovery of agriculture and trade from the depression caused by the late famine, but during the last few weeks the rainfall has been insufficient over a portion of Western and Central India, and fears are entertained as to the prospects of the harvests in those regions. My officers are carefully watching the situation, and timely precautions to meet any scarcity, should it occur, will be adopted. I regret to add that the plague, though still confined to the areas affected last winter, shows no signs of abatement.

"*Gentlemen of the House of Commons.*

"I thank you for the liberality with which you have provided for the Naval and Military defence of My Empire.

"*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

"The formal inclusion within My Empire of the territories occupied by the Royal Niger Company will facilitate the good administration of that region, and the effective defence of its frontier.

"I have had great satisfaction in giving My assent to a Bill for completing the organisation of Municipal Government in London. I do not doubt that the inhabitants of the various portions of this Metropolis will derive from it the benefits which similar institutions have conferred upon other cities and towns in this country.

"I have also gladly sanctioned Bills for the simplification of private legislation in Scotland, for the encouragement of agricultural and technical education in Ireland, for the better distribution of the supply of water in the Metropolis, for the removal of an injustice in regard to the incidence of rates under which the beneficed owners of tithe rent-charge have too long suffered, and for securing the purity of certain articles of food and drugs. I trust that the Bill which you have passed for consolidating the educational departments, and extending their powers, will tend to the improvement and completion of our educational system. The measures you have passed for facilitating the acquisition of the ownership of small houses by those who occupy them will be of considerable advantage to the working classes in many parts of the country.

"I pray that the blessing of Almighty God may attend upon the fruit of your labours for the benefit of My people."

Then a Commission for proroguing the Parliament was read.

After which the LORD CHANCELLOR said:

"*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

"By virtue of Her Majesty's Commission, under the Great Seal, to us and other Lords directed, and now read, we do, in Her Majesty's Name, and in obedience to Her Commands, prorogue this Parliament to Friday the twenty-seventh day of October next, to be then here holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Friday the twenty-seventh day of October next."

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Wednesday, 9th August 1899.

The House met at Ten of the clock.

PETITIONS.

CHAIRMEN OF BOARDS OF GUARDIANS BILL.

Petition from Sedbergh, in favour; to lie upon the Table.

POOR LAW AMENDMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1845.

Petitions for alteration of law;—From Kiltearn;—and, Logierait; to lie upon the Table.

SALE OF INTOXICATING LIQUORS ON SUNDAY BILL.

Petition from Tutbury, in favour; to lie upon the Table.

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RETURNS, REPORTS, &c.

COMPANIES BILL.

Paper [communicated 8th August] to be printed. (No. 361.)

COPYRIGHT BILL AND COPYRIGHT (ARTISTIC) BILL.

Paper [communicated 8th August] to be printed. (No. 362.)

FOREIGN JURISDICTION ACT, 1890.

Copy presented,—of Order in Council of the 8th August, 1899, entitled The Ottoman Order in Council, 1899 [by Act]; to lie upon the Table.

BRITISH SETTLEMENTS ACT, 1887, AND FOREIGN JURISDICTION ACT, 1890.

Copy presented,—of Order in Council of the 8th August, 1899, entitled The Pacific Order in Council (1893) Amendment Order, 1899 [by Act]; to lie upon the Table.

INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT ACTS, 1844 TO 1886.

Copy presented,—of Orders in Council of the 8th August, 1899 (i) giving effect to the accession of Japan to, and (ii) giving effect to the withdrawal of Montenegro from the International Copyright Union, respectively [by Act]; to lie upon the Table.

WINTER ASSIZES ACTS, 1876 AND 1877.

Copy presented,—of Seven Orders in Council of the 8th August, 1899, relating to the ensuing Winter Assizes [by Act]; to lie upon the Table.

TITHE RENT-CHARGE (GRANTS TO COUNTIES AND BOROUGHS).

Return presented, — relative thereto [ordered 8th August; *Mr. Carvell Williams*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 363.)

REFORMATORY AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS (IRELAND).

Copy presented, — of Thirty-seventh Report of the Inspector [by Command]; to lie upon the Table.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS (CONTRACTS).

Return presented, — relative thereto [ordered 7th July—*Mr. Logan*]; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. (No. 364.)

SUPERANNUATION ACT. 1884.

Copy presented,—of Treasury Minute, dated 3rd August 1899, declaring that Dr. Robert John Mitchell, Inspector of Registration, General Register Office, Ireland, was appointed without a Civil Service Certificate, through inadvertence on the part of the head of his Department [by Act]; to lie upon the Table.

ARKLOW HARBOUR.

Copy presented,—of Report of the Arklow Harbour Commissioners and Statement of Accounts for 1898 [by Act]; to lie upon the Table.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1897.

Copy presented,—of Treasury Order, dated 16th June, 1898, regulating Fees under The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897 [by Act]; to lie upon the Table.

PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS.

Mr. SPEAKER laid upon the Table:—

List of the Bills, Reports, Estimates, and Accounts and Papers printed by order of the House, and of Papers presented by Command, Session 1899, with a General Alphabetical Index thereto, 26th Parliament, Fifth Session, 62 and 63 Vic., 7th February, 1899 to 9th August, 1899; to be printed. (No. 365.)

HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE, CHANCERY DIVISION (ADDITIONAL JUDGE).

The Comptroller of the Household reported Her Majesty's Answer to the humble Address of the 31st July, as followeth:—

"I have received your Address praying that, in pursuance of the eighteenth section of the Appellate Jurisdiction Act, 1876, an additional Judge may be appointed to the High Court of Justice in

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the Chancery Division thereof, and I will issue directions in accordance with your desire."

QUESTIONS.

TRANSVAAL AFFAIRS.

SIR E. ASHMEAD - BARTLETT (Sheffield, Ecclesall): I beg to ask the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether he can give the House any further information as to the negotiations between Her Majesty's Government and the Transvaal, and especially as to the proposed Anglo-Boer Commission for the examination of the new franchise conditions.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES (Mr. J. CHAMBERLAIN, Birmingham, W.): No, Sir, I have received no information.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR (Liverpool, Scotland): In view of the anxiety prevalent in the country, I would ask the right hon. Gentleman whether he could make any statement with regard to the somewhat serious news as to the present state of negotiations between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of the South African Republic.

MR. J. CHAMBERLAIN: I have already stated that I have no official information on the subject. I do not know whether the reports which appear in the newspapers will be confirmed.

SIR WILFRID LAWSON (Cumberland, Cockermouth): I wish to ask the right hon. Gentleman whether the statement published in several newspapers is true that the Government have now ordered several regiments of infantry to prepare at once for embarcation for South Africa, and that this will be a special force and outside the usual drafts.

MR. J. CHAMBERLAIN: Yes, Sir, there is some truth in the statement. The Government of Natal made representations to us as to the defenceless state of the colony. We have decided accordingly to send reinforcements for the defence of Natal.

SIR WILFRID LAWSON: For the defence of Natal?

MR. J. CHAMBERLAIN: They are sent out for the defence of Natal and for all contingencies, and at the request of the Government of Natal.

SIR WILFRID LAWSON: Who is expected to make the attack?

(No answer was given.)

RUSSIA, CHINA AND JAPAN.

SIR E. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT: I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether the Russian Minister at Pekin has protested against the alliance proposed between China and Japan for the purpose of establishing the independence of China and Chinese reforms, and has threatened China with most serious consequences if such an alliance be concluded; and whether China and Japan can, in face of such menaces, depend upon the support of Her Majesty's Government.

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS (Mr. BRODRICK, Surrey, Guildford): No, Sir. We have received no information to this effect. I am afraid I cannot state what the policy of Her Majesty's Government will be in a hypothetical case.

SOLICITORS AND PARLIAMENTARY PRACTICE.

MR. ELLIS J. GRIFFITH (Anglesey): I beg to ask Mr. Solicitor-General whether a member of a firm of solicitors engaged in Parliamentary practice is eligible for membership of this House?

THE SOLICITOR-GENERAL (Sir R. B. FINLAY, Inverness Burghs): Yes, Sir, he is eligible; but if after election he continue to engage in Parliamentary practice a question of Parliamentary usage might arise for the decision of the authorities of the House.

TELEPHONIC COMMUNICATION.

SIR JAMES WOODHOUSE (Huddersfield): I beg to ask the Secretary to the Treasury, as representing the Postmaster-General, whether any terms have been agreed upon with the National Telephone

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Company as to inter-communication between the subscribers of that company and the subscribers of any competitive telephonic systems which may be set up under the provisions of the Bill now before Parliament when they shall come into force; and, if so, whether he will state what those terms are.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY TO THE TREASURY (Mr. HANBURY, Preston): If the subscribers of a new licensee equal in number one-half the subscribers of the National Telephone Company, intercommunication will be free in the restricted area of the new licensee; or, if the numbers are one-half of those over the whole area, then over the whole area. If they are equal to one-quarter, or less than one-half, there will be a charge of 1d. per conversation.

MR. PROVAND (Glasgow, Blackfriars): And in cases where it is less than a quarter?

MR. HANBURY: As a matter of fact, if there are more than 500, but less than one-quarter, there will be a right of intercommunication at the rate of 1½d. Those cases, however, will be extremely rare, for I shall certainly advise the Post Office not to grant licences except where there is real bonâ-fide competition.

CONSOLIDATED FUND (APPROPRIATION) BILL.

Order for Third Reading read.

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That the Bill be now read the third time."

MR. URE (Linlithgow) said he rose to call attention to the circumstances attending the loss of the British steamship "Kowshing" off the coast of Korea in July, 1894, and to the failure of the Government to secure compensation for the owners, and for the families of British subjects who lost their lives through the sinking of the vessel. It might be suggested that he should have put a question on this subject, but he was not a very strong believer in the efficacy of Ministerial interrogation, as it was an easy task for an intelligent Minister to give an evasive answer to an awkward question. Again, he might be recommended to open a correspondence on the subject with the Prime Minister. But he did adopt that course in his earlier and less experienced days of Parliamentary service, and the experiment was attended with a signal lack of success. He was therefore driven to take his present action, the more so because, when the Foreign Office Vote was discussed in Committee of Supply, other and more important matters engaged their attention. The subject he had to deal with was not a mere local one; it had entered the regions of national and Imperial concerns, and it was the duty of the British Government to see that redress was obtained for wrongs suffered by British subjects at the hands of a foreign State. What were the facts of this case? Over five years ago—on the 23rd July, 1894—a British steamship, the "Kowshing," was chartered by the Chinese Government to convey Chinese officers and soldiers to Korea. At that time war had not been formally declared, but shortly after she sailed war was declared between China and Japan. The authorities at Tientsin might easily have stopped her then, but they took no steps to do so, and on July 24th, when she came close to Korea, she fell in with a Japanese cruiser, which fired some shots across her bow, and the captain had no alternative but to submit to the Japanese command to surrender. The Chinese officers and men, however, prevented him taking that course, and threatened that they would massacre the captain and crew if they surrendered. The Japanese cruiser then ranged up alongside, and fired a broadside into the "Kowshing," with the result that several of the officers of the ship, all British subjects, were killed. The Foreign Office having, after very long delay, held that in international law the Chinese, and not the Japanese Government was responsible, a claim was made against China for compensation, but, although more than five years had elapsed, no satisfaction whatever had yet been obtained. All sorts of weak excuses—in which no one believed—had been put forward for the delay, and he had to strongly complain of the dilatory action of the Foreign Office in the matter. Patience, moderation, and moral suasion were all excellent in their way, but by their conduct the Government had laid themselves open to the gravest charge that could be brought against any British Administration, that, with a

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righteous cause, and an undivided and robust public opinion behind them, they deliberately turned their backs on the wrongs of British subjects at the hands of a Foreign State. He therefore moved that the Bill be read a third time that day three months.

Amendment proposed—

"To leave out the word 'now,' and a the end of the Question to add the words 'upon this day three months.'"—(*Mr. Ure.*)

Question proposed, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question."

*MR. BRODRICK: The hon. Gentleman charges the Government with very belated action in this matter, but I think it is only fair that I should remind the hon. Gentleman that his action in bringing this matter forward at the last moment of the session is a little belated also. He says we have been in a somnolent condition. I will endeavour to answer his complaint. It is quite true that this claim was made five years ago, on July 25, 1894. The hon. Gentleman has given a not altogether inaccurate history of what occurred; but the truth is that the hon. Gentleman himself gave the answer to his own speech when he said that it took a considerable time to decide whether by international law the claim should be made on the Japanese or on the Chinese Government; and, although Her Majesty's Government came to the conclusion that the Chinese Government, in the circumstances, were responsible, that view is not by any means shared by the Chinese Government. With regard to the delay, I do not think that the action of Her Majesty's Government in relation to the Chinese Government ought to be judged by the treatment of this one claim. In the past few years the Government have had to address the Chinese Government on a very considerable number of subjects, and they have, I think, obtained fair satisfaction in most cases. On this subject long delay has taken place, and I very much regret it. Her Majesty's Government have, however, recently proposed to the Chinese Government that if they are not prepared to recognise the justice of the claim, they should submit it to arbitration. Though we expected to receive a favourable answer to that suggestion, we have not yet received one; but we have informed the Chinese Government that we cannot wait indefinitely for the settlement of the claim, or for a reply as to arbitration, and that if they cannot see their way to submit the matter to arbitration the claim will be treated as one which must be compensated in some other way. It is very easy to speak strongly about the inaction of the Government, but if it is desired to push the claim at once forcible measures may have to be taken, and I do not understand the hon. Gentleman to suggest that forcible, and by that I mean warlike, measures should be taken with China on this matter. The Government fully hope to obtain a settlement if on arbitration it should prove that the Chinese Government is responsible. I entirely repudiate the idea that there has been inaction on the part of the Government. On the contrary, I think the Government has taken the proper course, and one which will end in the recognition of the claim by the Chinese Government.

MR. PROVAND said he should like to point out that other countries, such as Germany, France and Russia, got their claims settled promptly by China, while this country obtained no satisfaction at all in almost every case. He hoped that when the House met in February the right hon. Gentleman would be able to state that arbitration in this case had been accepted by the Chinese Government, and that if a decision was given against China Her Majesty's Government intended to enforce it, and would no longer tolerate being treated in a manner which no third-rate European Power would submit to.

SIR E. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT entirely agreed with what had fallen from the hon. Gentleman opposite. No doubt in this particular case the right hon. Gentleman had given an effective defence, as probably there had been great difficulty in getting a settlement of the great number of claims which had had to be made against China. The position of the Chinese Government was a very difficult one, and we too were in a delicate situation and not able to press claims so forcibly, seeing that we were doing our

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best to secure the integrity and strengthen the powers of self-defence of the Chinese Empire. But on the general question of the policy of our Government in relation to these matters, he submitted that the result of the past methods of the Foreign Office had been to make it almost a disadvantage to be a British subject in a dispute of this kind. Foreign governments, no doubt, were more unscrupulous in pressing the claims of their subjects, but he thought there was room for great improvement in the general support the Foreign Office ought to give to the commercial interests of British subjects abroad. The traditions of the Foreign Office dated back from the days when we were almost supreme in all parts of the world, and in those times the Foreign Office held and acted on the view that its business was diplomacy and not the mere protection of British private and commercial interests. This policy was antiquated and totally unsuited to the present times. Let the right hon. Gentleman ask any South American merchant how French and German claims were treated, and he would be told that they were settled directly they were made.

*MR. BRODRICK: I was going through the papers of a German claim yesterday. It took twenty months to settle that.

MR. PROVAND: But it is settled. The claim we are discussing was made five years ago, and is still unsettled.

SIR E. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT said he did not think the right hon. Gentleman had gained much by his interruption. It was undoubtedly the case that German and French subjects got their claims more promptly settled in every quarter of the world than did British subjects. The Waima incident was another case which had been delayed year after year on the most frivolous pretences, and he might quote other cases to show how British subjects were placed at a disadvantage by the policy of the Foreign Office.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR said he wished to call attention to the present relations between this country and the Transvaal. He realised that we had reached a very serious and critical position, and that any Member of the House who alluded to the matter ought to do so with a very strong sense of responsibility. Had he consulted his own feelings he would not have said a word on the subject, but he felt it to be his duty to raise the question before the House formally separated for the recess. He would not, however, introduce into the discussion any language of a recriminatory or partisan nature, but he wished to say that his own feeling was that if hostilities should arise it would be a needless war, and every needless war was a criminal war. There was a feeling in this country that our fellow-subjects in the Transvaal were not treated as they had a right to be, and that their exclusion from the franchise did not give them the means of safeguarding their interests as they would wish to safeguard them. On the other hand, there was a disposition amongst fair-minded men to look at the question from the Boer as well as from the British point of view. The Boers regarded the Transvaal as their own country, and they wished to live by themselves, and to be governed according to their own ideas and idiosyncracies. From their standpoint the English and others were foreigners or settlers in their country, and it should be remembered that the Uitlanders were engaged in an industry—the mining industry—which might come to an end at any time, and they were not substantial settlers, like persons engaged in agriculture. As was well known, there were many cases in America where mining cities had sprung up only to be abandoned a generation later. Furthermore, the Boers were entitled under the Convention to full liberty of action with regard to the internal affairs of the Transvaal. It would be a flagrant breach of the spirit and letter of the Convention if we drove matters to extremities because of the claim of the Transvaal Government to deal according to their own lights with their own internal affairs. In this country there were some people who felt that we had humiliations, defeats, and shames to blot out in connection with our relations with the Transvaal. There was a section of people—he hoped it was a small one—who regarded Majuba as the episode in these relations which should weigh most upon the mind.

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SIR E. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT: The surrender after Majuba.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR said there was a sort of obscure feeling that this country had some shame to blot out, some defeat to avenge. He took an entirely opposite view. He thought the action of this country after the battle of Majuba Hill was one of the brightest and noblest pages in history. No one engaged in that transaction doubted that the mighty forces of this Empire would have been able to blot out in a few weeks the shame of a chance defeat in a small *rencontre;* but it would have been an act of moral guilt to deprive the Boers of their liberty by further shedding innocent blood. He did not believe that President Kruger altogether represented Boer opinion. Could anyone doubt that the younger race of Boers, now growing up alongside British subjects, would become imbued with their advancing and enterprising spirit? Why not wait, if need be, a quarter of a century in order to secure by this natural growth of opinion a peaceful and tranquil settlement rather than embark at once on a needless war? No doubt Sir Alfred Milner made it an important part of his policy that the Transvaal question required immediate settlement because of the immediate effect it would have upon the relations with nationalities in other places. That was a two-edged argument. Everybody knew that an attack on the Boers of the Transvaal would bring us into moral collision, at any rate, with the Dutch population in other parts of the world, thereby sowing the seeds of future discord, ill-will, and bad feeling between the Dutch and the English. According to that morning's papers the Transvaal Government did not seem disposed to accept the invitation to the Conference, and that undoubtedly created a serious situation. But he trusted that we should not lose our heads. The Boer Government had made two declarations. The first was as to a matter of fact—namely, that the laws which it was proposed to refer to a joint body differed only in detail from the proposals of Sir A. Milner at the Bloemfontein Conference. He submitted that before we took violent action against a country which was entitled to manage its own internal affairs the matter in dispute should be one of great importance and not a mere detail. Secondly, when President Kruger was about to make new proposals to the legislative bodies in the Transvaal with regard to the franchise he invited an expression of opinion from Sir A. Milner. But Sir A. Milner declined the invitation and threw entire responsibility in the matter on the President. The Transvaal Government, according to that morning's news, "desired nothing more earnestly than that by a friendly and fair settlement an end might be made of the state of tension which at present exists with such a demoralising effect on South Africa." It was in this spirit that the President went to the Conference at Bloemfontein, and the Transvaal Government intimated that they "would ever be ready to consider in a friendly spirit any suggestion of Her Majesty's Government." This meant that the Transvaal Government did not regard the franchise question as closed. It simply proposed a method of dealing with it different from that proposed on behalf of this country. It was his honest and solemn conviction that the people of this country would look to the Government not merely for firmness, but also for forbearance. He believed that the manly and brave people of this country felt the serious inequality of the conflict between this country and the people of the Transvaal, and would regard it as far more courageous for us to pursue a policy of firmness and forbearance.

MR. J. CHAMBERLAIN: I cannot help regretting that the Leader of the Opposition is not in his place to-day, because I think he would have joined with me in discountenancing and discouraging, as far as I can, any attempt to pursue a debate with regard to affairs in the Transvaal. There are many objections to such a course. The situation is, as the hon. Member says, serious and at the same time doubtful. His whole speech was based on the hypothesis that President Kruger and the Government of the South African Republic have refused the proposal which, in itself, was intended in the interests of peace, and which the hon. Member recognises to have been moderate and reasonable. But the report is that that proposal has been refused. At present, at any rate, it is only a report. I have stated that I have no

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official information confirming the report, and I hope it may not be true. In the circumstances I confess I rather regret the necessity for any discussion of a hypothetical situation. The hon. Member, however, has thought it necessary, even at this late period of the session, to present himself—I will not say as the advocate, but as the representative—of what he considers the Boer point of view. I am not certain that the Boer Government would accept that representation as accurately expressing their views. But, whether they would or not, I cannot accept it as a proper account of the situation. All that I should pass over, and sit down, if it were not that I fear speeches of the kind just made are liable to misinterpretation. If the speech were confined to the House, no harm would be done. We know what to think of the hon. Member when he professes to speak in the name of the people of this country. But, unfortunately, these speeches are reported and extracts sent to other countries, and especially to the Transvaal, and there it is always possible they may do mischief in a critical situation. Although I do not intend to enter upon the general argument of the hon. Member beyond saying that I entirely disagree with him, I do think it necessary to take notice of his statement that in the opinion of many persons in this country, any extreme measure—I always dislike to use the word war unless it becomes necessary, but the hon. Member used it and said that any extreme measure or war would be needless; and he submits an alternative proposal which consists, as far as I can make out, of an abject surrender on the part of the British Government, and in the expression of their willingness to wait, it may be, five-and-twenty years before the grievances of the Uitlanders are redressed. It would be a fatal mistake for this country, or for any country, if that view were supposed to represent the opinions even of a small minority of this House, or of anything but the most insignificant minority in the country. The view of the Government and the policy of the Government have been clearly expressed both in this House and in another place. We have stated that we recognise the grievances under which our subjects in South Africa are labouring. We have stated that we find those grievances, not merely in themselves a serious cause for interposition, but a source of danger to the whole of South Africa. We say that our predominance, which both sides of the House have constantly asserted, is menaced by the action of the Transvaal in refusing to redress grievances and in refusing any consideration to the requests made in moderate language by the suzerain Power. That is a state of things which cannot long be tolerated. We have stated that we have put our hands to the plough and we will not draw back, and on that statement I propose to rest content.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Main Question put, and agreed to.

Bill read the third time, and passed.

MESSAGE FROM THE LORDS.

That they have agreed to—

CONSOLIDATED FUND (APPROPRIATION) BILL.

Without Amendment.

ROYAL ASSENT.

Message to attend the Lords Commissioners.

The House went; and the Royal Assent was given to a number of Bills. (See House of Lords Report this day; *ante* page 255.)

And afterwards Her Majesty's Most Gracious Speech was delivered to both Houses of Parliament by the Lord High Chancellor (in pursuance of Her Majesty's Commands).

Then a Commission for proroguing the Parliament was read.

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After which the LORD CHANCELLOR said:

"*My Lords, and Gentlemen,*

By virtue of Her Majesty's Commission, under the Great Seal, to us and other Lords directed, and now read, we do, in Her Majesty's Name, and in obedience to Her Commands, prorogue this Parliament to Friday the twenty-seventh day of October next, to be then here holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Friday the twenty-seventh day of October next."

End of the Fifth Session of the Fourteenth Parliament of Her Majesty.

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HOARE, MR. E. B. [Hampstead]
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respect to the regulation of street cries sale of ice creams and with reference to milk and other matters affecting the health and good government of the City and to enlarge their powers in connection with the supply of electricity and for other purposes. (Manchester Corporation (General Powers).)

clxxxix. An Act to extend the powers of the Lea Bridge District Gas Company and amend the Acts affecting that Company and for other purposes. (Lea Bridge District Gas.)

cxc. An Act to enable the Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Sunderland to construct additional tramways in and adjacent to the Borough and for other purposes. (Sunderland Corporation.)

cxci. An Act for incorporating and conferring powers on the Menstone Waterworks Company. (Menstone Waterworks.)

cxcii. An Act to enable the Baker Street and Waterloo Railway Company to make new railways and works to confer further power upon the Company and for other purposes. (Baker Street and Waterloo Railway.)

cxciii. An Act to empower the Corporation of Derby to acquire and work the undertaking of the Derby Tramways Company Limited to confer further powers on the Corporation with reference to the government of the Borough and for other purposes. (Derby Corporation Tramways, etc.)

cxciv. An Act for empowering the London United Tramways Limited to widen a certain Road at Brentford to use mechanical power on their tramways in London and for other purposes. (London United Tramways.)

cxcv. An Act for incorporating and conferring powers on the Redditch Gas Company. (Redditch Gas.)

cxcvi. An Act to confer further powers upon the Corporation of the County Borough of Stockport with respect to tramways and to their electric lighting and other undertakings to make further provision for the improvement and good government of the Borough to amend and extend the provisions of the Local Acts relating to the Borough and for other purposes. (Stockport Corporation.)

cxcvii. An Act to empower the Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Loughborough to purchase the undertaking of the Loughborough Gas Company and to supply gas and electricity to extend the water limits of the said Corporation and for other purposes. (Loughborough Corporation.)

cxcviii. An Act to authorise the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board to create redeemable stock and to enable the Board to raise money temporarily by bills of exchange or promisory notes and for other purposes. (Mersey Docks (Finance).)

cxcix. An Act to enable the Port Talbot Railway and Docks Company to maintain certain deviations of their railways and works authorised by the Port Talbot Railway and Docks Act 1894 the Port Talbot Railway and Docks (Ogmore Valleys Extension) Act 1896 and the Port Talbot Railway and Docks (South Wales Mineral Railway Junction) Act 1896 and for other purposes. (Port Talbot Railway and Docks.)

cc. An Act to confer further powers on the Corporation of Whitehaven with respect to their water and electric lighting undertakings to extend the Borough of Whitehaven to consolidate the rates of the Borough and simplify the collection thereof and for other purposes. (Whitehaven Corporation.)

cci. An Act to extend and amend the Humber Conservancy Acts 1852 to 1876 and to confer further powers on the Humber Conservancy Commissioners and for other purposes. (Humber Conservancy.)

ccii. An Act to confer further powers upon the Great Northern Railway Company. (Great Northern Railway.)

cciii. An Act for incorporating the Great Northern and Strand Railway Company and for empowering them to construct an underground railway from the Parish of Wood Green in the County of Middlesex to the Parish of Saint Clement Danes in the Administrative County of London and for other purposes. (Great Northern and Strand Railway.)

cciv. An Act for incorporating and conferring powers upon a Joint Committee of the Great Western and Great Central Railway Companies and for vesting in them certain existing and authorised railways of the Great Western Railway Company and authorising them to construct a new railway and other works and for other purposes. (Great Western and Great Central Railway Companies.)

ccv. An Act to empower the London Brighton and South Coast Railway Company to widen their existing railways and to purchase additional lands and for other purposes. (London Brighton and South Coast Railway (Various Powers).)

ccvi. An Act for conferring further powers on the South Eastern and London Chatham and Dover Railway Companies with reference to the construction of new railways and for other purposes. (South Eastern and London Chatham and Dover Railway Companies (New Lines, etc.).)

ccvii. An Act to authorise the Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the County Borough of Stockport to purchase the undertaking of the Stockport District Waterworks Company and for other purposes. (Stockport Corporation Water.)

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ccviii. An Act to empower the Walker and Wallsend Union Gas Company to supply electricity within certain parts of their limits of gas supply. (Walker and Wallsend Union Gas Company's (Electric Lighting).)

ccix. An Act to authorise the Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Godalming to purchase the undertaking of the Frith Hill Godalming and Farncombe Water Company Limited and to supply water throughout the Borough and adjoining places. (Godalming Corporation Water.)

ccx An Act for empowering the London and North Western Railway Company to construct new railways in the Counties of Warwick Chester Lancaster and Anglesey and for other purposes. (London and North Western Railway (New Railways).)

ccxi. An Act for empowering the Corporation of the City of Sheffield to purchase from the Duke of Norfolk his markets and fairs within the City and for other purposes. (Sheffield Corporation (Markets).)

ccxii. An Act to extend the time for the completion of the authorised pier and works of the Weston-super-Mare Grand Pier Company and for other purposes. (Weston-super-Mare Grand Pier.)

ROYAL ASSENT, 9th August 1899.

ccxiii. An Act for conferring further powers upon the London and North Western Railway Company in relation to their own undertaking and upon that Company and the Great Western Railway Company in relation to their joint undertaking and for other purposes. (London and North Western Railway (Additional Powers).)

ccxiv. An Act to extend the municipal and police boundaries of the Burgh of Renfrew to authorise the construction of a tidal dock or basin and other works at the Harbour and for other purposes. (Renfrew Burgh and Harbour Extension.)

ccxv. An Act to confer further powers on the Caledonian Railway Company in relation to their undertaking to authorise them to deviate certain railways of the North British Railway Company and the Forth and Clyde Junction Railway Company at Stirling to empower the Callander and Oban and Lochearnhead St. Fillans and Comrie Railway Companies to widen and deviate portions of their railways to enable the Caledonian Railway Company to subscribe to the undertaking of the last-named Company and for other purposes. (Caledonian Railway (General Powers).)

ccxvi. An Act to authorise the Caledonian Railway Company and the Great North of Scotland Railway Company to alter and enlarge their Aberdeen Joint Passenger Station and to construct certain railways and works in connection therewith and for other purposes. (Aberdeen Joint Passenger Station.)

ccxvii. An Act to authorise the Urban District Council of Leigh-on-Sea in the County of Essex to construct and maintain gas works and for other purposes. (Leigh-on-Sea Urban District Council.)

ccxviii. An Act to empower the Urban District Council for the District of Moss Side to work any tramway for the time being belonging to or leased by them and for other purposes. (Moss Side Tramways.)

ccxix. An Act to empower the Urban District Council for the District of Stretford to work any tramway for the time being belonging to or leased by them and for other purposes. (Stretford Tramways.)

ccxx. An Act to empower the Urban District Council for the District of Withington to work any tramway for the time being belonging to or leased by them and for other purposes. (Withington Tramways.)

ccxxi. An Act to empower the Weston-super-Mare Clevedon and Portishead Tramways Company to construct light railways in the County of Somerset and for other purposes. (Weston Cleveland and Portishead Light Railways.)

ccxxii. An Act to alter and amend the Yeadon and Guiseley Gas Act 1868 by substituting for the maximum price of gas supplied by the Yeadon and Guiseley Gas Light and Coke Company a standard price with a sliding scale of profits dependent on the price charged above or below such standard price. (Yeadon and Guiseley Gas.)

ccxxiii. An Act for conferring further powers upon the South Staffordshire Tramways Company with respect to the leasing of tramways and for other purposes. (South Staffordshire Tramways.)

ccxxiv. An Act to confer powers upon the Corporation of the Borough of Darwen with respect to the working and construction of tramways in the Borough to confer further powers on the said Corporation with respect to their waterworks undertaking and in regard to streets buildings sewers and drains and for the health local government and improvement of the Borough to make further provisions for the collection and recovery of rates for the borrowing of money and for other purposes. (Darwen Corporation.)

ccxxv. An Act to make further provision in regard to the water supply of the Borough of Warrington and to improve the local government of that town. (Warrington Corporation.)

ccxxvi. An Act to authorise the re-transfer to the Justices of the Peace for the County of Worcester and to the Worcestershire County Council of the Parish of Yardley in the County of Worcester for police and all other purposes from the Justices of the Peace for the County of Warwick and the Warwickshire County Council and for other purposes. (Worcestershire County Council (Transfer of the Parish of Yardley).)

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ccxxvii. An Act for conferring further powers on the Glasgow and South Western Railway Company for the construction of works and the acquisition of lands for vesting in them the undertakings of the Large Harbour Company and the Kilmarnock and Troon Railway Company for making provision with reference to the election of Rothesay Harbour trustees for empowering the Company to raise additional capital and for other purposes. (Glasgow and South Western Railway.)

ccxxviii. An Act to confer further powers upon the Great Eastern Railway Company to authorise them to execute further works to acquire additional lands and to raise further money and for other purposes. (Great Eastern Railway (General Powers).)

ccxxix. An Act to extend the limits of supply of the Great Yarmouth Waterworks Company and to authorise that Company to construct new works to raise further money and for other purposes. (Great Yarmouth Waterworks.)

ccxxx. An Act to confer additional powers upon the North Eastern Railway Company for the construction of new railways and other works and the acquisition of additional lands and for transferring to the Company the powers of the North Holderness Light Railway Company and for other purposes. (North Eastern Railway.)

ccxxxi. An Act to confer further powers on the North Staffordshire Railway Company. (North Staffordshire Railway.)

ccxxxii. An Act to empower the Wolverhampton Tramways Company Limited to alter the gauge of certain of their tramways and to work the same by mechanical power and for other purposes. (Wolverhampton Tramways.)

ccxxxiii. An Act to authorise the Corporation of Hastings to enter into agreements with the Hastings Harbour Commissioners to guarantee the payment by the Corporation of interest upon capital for the completion of Hastings Harbour to provide for the transfer of the Harbour undertaking to the Corporation and for other purposes. (Hastings Harbour.)

ccxxxiv. An Act to authorise the abandonment of a portion of the Oystermouth Railway or Tramroad for the lease of the undertaking and of the Mumbles Railway and Pier to the Swansea Improvements and Tramways Company and for other purposes. (Oystermouth Railway or Tramroad.)

ccxxxv. An Act to increase the number of the members of the Council of Bootle to increase the number of the wards of the Borough and to make further provision for the health local government and improvement of the Borough and for other purposes. (Bootle Corporation.)

ccxxxvi. An Act to amend the enactments relating to markets in the City of Dublin and to the borrowing powers of the Corporation of Dublin and for other purposes. (Dublin Corporation (Markets).)

ccxxxvii. An Act to enable the London County Council to construct railway sidings at Horton Asylum (Surrey) and to purchase lands for various purposes to extend the time limited for the purchase of certain lands and the completion of certain works and for other purposes. (London County Council (General Powers).)

ccxxxviii. An Act to regulate the expenditure of money by the London County Council on capital account during the current financial period and the raising of money to meet such expenditure. (London County Council (Money).)

ccxxxix. An Act to authorise the Trustees of the Clyde Navigation to construct a new tidal dock river wall high level cross ferry recesses and other works to borrow additional money to confirm agreements with railway companies respecting Prince's Dock Branch Railway and for other purposes. (Clyde Navigation.)

ccxl. An Act to make further provision for protecting Cromer from encroachment of the sea to authorise the construction of a pier and for other purposes. (Cromer Protection.)

ccxli. An Act to empower the Corporation of Oldham to construct additional tramways to make a new street to confer further powers upon the Corporation and other authorities with regard to tramways in and near the Borough and for other purposes. (Oldham Corporation.)

ccxlii. An Act for enabling the North Eastern Railway Company and the Hull Barnsley and West Riding Junction Railway and Dock Company to make a dock and railways at Hull and for other purposes. (Hull Joint Dock.)

ccxliii. An Act to confirm an agreement between the Fylde Waterworks Company and the Fylde Waterworks Company and the Fylde Water Board for the sale and purchase of the Company's undertaking to consolidate and amend the Acts relating to the Company and for other purposes. (Fylde Water Board.)

ccxliv. An Act to enable the Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Salford to reconstruct their existing and to construct additional tramways to make street improvements and to raise additional moneys by mortgage and by the creation and issue of stock and to make further provisions for the good government of the Borough. (Salford Corporation.)

ccxlv. An Act to make further provision in regard to the water undertaking of the Corporation of Wakefield and to the health local government and improvement of the City and for other purposes. (Wakefield Corporation.)

ccxlvi. An Act to empower the Lord Mayor and Aldermen and Citizens of the City of Belfast to lay down tramways to make works and to purchase lands for cemetery purposes to amend several of the Local Acts in force in Belfast and to confer various powers on the Corporation. (Belfast Corporation.)

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ccxlvii. An Act to confer further powers on the City and Brixton Railway Company for the construction of an extension railway and works in the County of London and for other purposes. (City and Brixton Railway.)

ccxlviii. An Act to enable the Gateshead and District Tramways Company to lay down and maintain additional tramways and works and for other purposes. (Gateshead and District Tramways.)

ccxlix. An Act to authorise the London Walthamstow and Epping Forest Railway Company to construct a new railway to connect with the Great Eastern Railway to abandon a portion of their authorised railway and for other purposes. (London Walthamstow and Epping Forest Railway.)

ccl. An Act for incorporating the West Metropolitan Railway Company and for empowering them to construct railways from the Hammersmith and City Railway in the County of London to Acton in the County of Middlesex and for other purposes. (West Metropolitan Railway.)

ccli. An Act for incorporating the Bexhill and Rotherfield Railway Company and for other purposes. (Bexhill and Rotherfield Railway.)

cclii. An Act to empower the Birmingham North Warwickshire and Stratford-on-Avon Railway Company to make new railways in the Counties of Worcester and Warwick and for other purposes. (Birmingham North Warwickshire and Stratford-on-Avon Railway.)

ccliii. An Act to confer further powers upon the London and South Western Railway Company to authorise them to execute further works to acquire additional lands and to raise further money and for other purposes. (South Western Railway.)

ccliv. An Act to confer further powers upon the Corporation of Manchester and neighbouring authorities in respect of tramways within and beyond the City and for other purposes. (Manchester Corporation Tramways.)

cclv. An Act to empower the Paisley and Barrhead District Railway Company to construct new railways and for other purposes. (Paisley and Barrhead District Railway.)

cclvi. An Act to consolidate the Parishes within the County Borough of Portsmouth and to confer further powers on the Corporation of Portsmouth and for other purposes. (Portsmouth Corporation.)

cclvii. An Act to make new provisions with regard to the constitution and to change the name of the Company of Proprietors of the Rochdale Canal to fix and regulate the capital and borrowing powers of the Company to amend the Acts relating to and confer further powers on the Company and for other purposes. (Rochdale Canal.)

cclviii. An Act to authorise the construction of a tramroad in and near to Southport and for other purposes. (Southport District Tramroad.)

cclix. An Act to empower the Corporation of Wolverhampton to construct tramways and street improvements and to make further provision in regard to tramways in and in the neighbourhood of Wolverhampton and in regard to the electric lighting and water undertakings of the Corporation and the finance of the Borough and for other purposes. (Wolverhampton Corporation.)

cclx. An Act for extending the limits of the Borough of Workington and for making further and better provision in regard to the water supply thereof. (Workington Corporation.)

cclxi. An Act for incorporating the North West London Railway Company and for empowering them to construct underground railways from Marble Arch to Cricklewood and for other purposes. (North West London Railway.)

cclxii. An Act to confer further powers on the Brompton and Piccadilly Circus Railway Company for the construction of extension railways and works in the County of London and for other purposes. (Brompton and Piccadilly Circus Railway (Extensions).)

cclxiii. An Act to empower the Corporation of Leeds to extend their Kirkgate Market to erect a hall to construct street works and a tramway and for other purposes. (Leeds Corporation.)

cclxiv. An Act to confer further powers on the Charing Cross Euston and Hampstead Railway Company for authorising agreements with the Midland South Eastern and London and North Western Railway Companies and for other purposes. (Charing Cross Euston and Hampstead Railway.)

cclxv. An Act to enable the Mayor Aldermen and Citizens of the City and County of Newcastle-upon-Tyne to construct additional tramways street improvements and other works and to make further provision for the good government of the City and for other purposes. (Newcastle-upon-Tyne Tramways and Improvement.)

cclxvi. An Act to empower the London County Council to make a new street from Holborn to the Strand and a widening of Southampton Row to widen High Street Kensington and to make other street improvements and works in the administrative County of London and for other purposes. (London County Council (Improvements).)

cclxvii. An Act to empower the Harrow and Uxbridge Railway Company to make certain extensions to connect their authorised railway with the Metropolitan Railway and for other purposes. (Harrow and Uxbridge Railway.)

cclxviii. An Act to authorise the Uxbridge and Rickmansworth Railway Company to abandon portions of their undertaking and to construct a new or substituted railway in lieu thereof and for other purposes. (Uxbridge and Rickmansworth Railway.)

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cclxix. An Act to authorise the construction of works for impounding and distributing the waters of the Rivers Derwent and Ashop and their tributaries and to constitute a joint board representative of the Corporations of Derby Leicester Nottingham and Sheffield and of the County Council of Derbyshire for the purposes of such construction and to confer further powers in relation to the supply of water on the said Corporations and County Council and for other purposes. (Derwent Valley Water.)

cclxx. An Act to authorise the Mayor Aldermen and Citizens of the City of Bradford in the County of York to construct additional tramways in and near the City to purchase Baildon Moor and other lands to make further provision for the improvement of the City and for other purposes. (Bradford Tramways and Improvement.)

P cclxxi. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Gas and Water Works Facilities Act 1870 relating to Farnham Gas Freshwater Gas Morecambe Gas and Newtown and Llanllwchaiarn Gas. (Gas Orders Confirmation (No. 2).)

P cclxxii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to Isle of Thanet (Rural) Ramsgate and Reading. (Local Government Board's Provisional Orders Confirmation (No. 14).)

P cclxxiii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Tramways Act 1870 relating to Audenshaw Urban District Tramways Clayton Tramways Eccles Corporation Tramways Ilkeston Corporation Tramways Queensbury Tramway and Southport Corporation Tramways. (Tramways Orders Confirmation (No. 2).

P cclxxiv. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Tramways Act 1870 relating to Barking Town Urban District Tramways Blackpool Corporation Tramways Dudley and Wolverhampton Tramways Gravesend Rosherville and Nortfleet Tramways Ilford Urban District Tramways and Wrexham District Tramways. (Tramways Orders Confirmation (No. 3).)

P cclxxv. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order made by the Board of Trade under the Electric Lighting Acts 1882 and 1888 relating to the City of London. (Electric Lighting Order Confirmation (No. 29).)

P cclxxvi. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order made by the Education Department under the Elementary Education Acts 1870 to 1893 to enable the School Board for London to put in force the Lands Clauses Acts. (Education Department Provisional Order Confirmation (London).)

P cclxxvii. An Act to confirm a Scheme of the Charity Commissioners for the management of the several Charities founded by the Settlement and Will of Christopher Tancred of Whixley in the County of York Esquire deceased. (Tancred's Charities Scheme Confirmation.)

PRIVATE ACT.

PRINTED BY THE QUEEN'S PRINTER, AND WHEREOF THE PRINTED COPIES MAY BE GIVEN IN EVIDENCE.

i. An Act to give effect to a compromise of opposing claims affecting certain estates of the late Sir James Cockburn 7th Baronet deceased situate in the Counties of Pembroke Cardigan and Carmarthen and in the City and County of London. (Yorke Estate.)

PRIVATE ACTS.

NOT PRINTED.

An Act to dissolve the Marriage of Thomas Charles Duffin Cathcart of Ruperta House Newtownards Roads in that part of the City of Belfast which is situate in County Down Medical Practitioner with Emily Jane Cathcart his now wife and to enable him to marry again and for other purposes. (Cathcart's Divorce.)

An Act to dissolve the Marriage of Charlotte Jane Jones the wife of Robert Colvill Jones with the said Robert Colvill Jones and to enable her to marry again and for other purposes. (Jones' Divorce.)

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BILLS DEALT WITH IN SESSION 1899.

*Those marked thus * are Government Bills.*

Title of Bill.	Brought in by	Progress.
Adulteration (Food Products) [88]	*Mr. Kearley*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Agricultural Holdings [33]	*Mr. Channing*	*Withdrawn*, July 3.
*Agriculture and Technical Instruction (Ireland) [180] [280]	*Mr. Gerald Balfour*	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
*Anchors and Chain Cables [101]	*Mr. Ritchie*	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
Ancient Monuments Protection [286]	*Lord Balcarres*	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
*Army (Annual) [134]	*Mr. Wyndham*	*Royal Assent*, April 27.
Bakehouses [102]	*Mr. Woods*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Bankruptcy Act (1883) Amendment [70]	*Mr. Brynmor Jones*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Baths and Washhouses Acts Amendment [185] [288]	*Mr. Bigwood*	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
*Board of Education [Lords] [214] [265]	*Sir John Gorst*	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
*Bodies Corporate (Joint Tenancy) [Lords] [172]	*Mr. Attorney-General*	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
Boilers Inspection and Registration [40]	*Mr. Fenwick*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Building Feus and Leases (Scotland) [110]	*Mr. Colville*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Cemeteries Rating [155]	*Mr. Stephens*	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Chairmen of Boards of Guardians [251	*Sir James Fortescue Flannery*	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
*Charitable Loans (Ireland) [113]	*Mr. Attorney-General for Ireland*	*Withdrawn*, July 31.
Cheap Trains [26]	*Mr. Woods*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Church Discipline [11]	*Mr. David MacIver*	*2nd Reading negatived*, May 10.
Coal Mines Regulation [49]	*Sir Charles Dilke*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
*Colonial Loans [294]	*Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer*	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
*Colonial Loans Fund [98]	*Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer*	*Withdrawn*, July 27.
Colonial Marriages [29]	*Mr. Rothschild*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Colonial Solicitors [77]	*Mr. Warr*	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Companies [Lords] [ ]	- - - - -	*Brought from the Lords*, Aug. 4.
Companies Acts Amendment [36]	*Mr. Faithfull Begg*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Commons and Open Spaces [Lords] [285]	*Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice*	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
*Congested Districts Board (Ireland) [266]	*Mr. Gerald Balfour*	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 1.
*Congested Districts (Scotland) Act Amendment [Lords] [270]	*The Lord Advocate*	*Withdrawn*, July 24.
*Consolidated Fund (Appropriation)	*Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer*	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
*Consolidated Fund (No. 1)	*Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer*	*Royal Assent*, Mar. 27.
Constructive Murder Law Amendment [84]	*Mr. William Ambrose*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Coroners' Inquests (Railway Fatalities) [55]	*Mr. Channing*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Cottage Homes [7]	*Mr. Joseph A. Pease*	Reported without Amendment, July 7.

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Title of Bill.	Brought in by	Progress.
County Councillors (Qualification of Women) (Scotland) [128]	*Mr. Munro Ferguson*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Court of Criminal Appeal [58] - -	*Mr. Pickersgill* - -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Criminal Law and Procedure (Ireland) Act (1887) Repeal [19]	*Mr. Dillon* - -	*2nd Reading put off for six months*, April 19.
Crofters' Holdings (Scotland) Act (1886) Amendment [85]	*Mr. Weir* - - -	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Crown Cases [57] - - - - - -	*Mr. Pickersgill* - -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Distress Abolition and Substitution [52]	*Mr. Bartley* - -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Drainage Separation [233] - - -	*Mr. Stephens* - -	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Ecclesiastical Assessments (Scotland) [10]	*Mr. Gordon* - -	*Withdrawn*, July 27.
Education (England and Wales) [275] -	*Mr. Alfred Hutton* -	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Education of Children [3] - - -	*Mr. Robson* - -	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
Education (School Attendance) (Scotland) [94]	*Captain Sinclair* -	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Electric Lighting Act (1882) Amendment [276]	*Sir John Dorington* -	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
*Electric Lighting (Clauses) [100] - -	*Mr. Ritchie* - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
*Elementary Eeucation (Defective and Elileptic Children) [Lords] [281]	*Sir John Gorst* - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
Elementary Education (New Bye-laws) [86]	*Mr. Alfred Hutton* -	Adjourned Debate on 2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Employers and Workmen Law Amendment [131]	*Mr. Steadman* - -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Evicted Tenants (Ireland) Reinstatement [15]	*Mr. O'Malley* - -	*2nd Reading negatived*, April 12.
Executors (Scotland) Amendment [48]	*Mr. J. B. Balfour* -	Committee (*Progress*), Mon. Aug. 9.
*Expiring Laws Continuance [295] -	*Mr. Hanbury* - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
Factories and Workshops [191] - -	*Mr. Tennant* - -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Factories and Workshops Amendment and Consolidation [218]	*Mr. Caldwell* - -	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
*Farnley Tyas Marriages [137] - -	*Mr. Jesse Collings* -	*Royal Assent*, June 20.
*Finance [162] [227] - - - - -	*Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer*	*Royal Assent*, June 20.
Fine or Imprisonment (Scotland and Ireland) [121] [147]	*Sir Charles Cameron*	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
Fire Brigades [8] - - - - - -	*Mr. Pym* - - -	*Withdrawn*, April 12.
Fisheries (Ireland) Acts Amendment [171]	*Mr. Seton-Karr* -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Floods Prevention [181] - - -	*Colonel Milward* -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Franchise and Removal of Women's Disabilities [50]	*Sir Charles Dilke* -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
*Gordon Memorial College at Khartoum [Lords] [283]	- - - - - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 1.
Government of Scotland [254] - -	*Mr. Pirie* - - -	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Grocers' Licences (Scotland) Abolition [104]	*Sir John Leng* - -	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Ground Values (Taxation) (Scotland) [114]	*Sir Charles Cameron*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Highways and Bridges Act (1891) Amendment [133]	*Mr. Jeffreys* - -	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Home Industries [289] - - -	*Colonel Denny* - -	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Housing of the Working Classes [13] -	*Mr. Price* - - -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Imbeciles (Training Institutions) [175]	*Mr. Round* - -	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
*Improvement of Land [91] [269] - -	*Mr. Long* - - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
Incest (Punishment) [127] - - -	*Colonel Dalbiac* -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Indecent Advertisements [293] - -	*Mr. Channing* - -	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Indictments [116] - - - - -	*Mr. Lloyd Morgan* -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
*Inebriates Act (1898) Amendment [87]	*Mr. Jesse Collings* -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
Infectious Disease (Notification) Act (1889) Extension [111]	*Sir Francis Powell* -	*Royal Assent*, June 20.
Intoxicating Liquors Local Veto (Ireland) [56]	*Mr. William Johnston*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Intoxicating Liquors (Sunday Closing) [97]	*Mr. Tritton* - -	Adjourned Debate on Amendment to 2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.

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Title of Bill.	Brought in by	Progress.
*Isle of Man (Customs) [284] - -	*Mr. Hanbury* - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
Isolation Hospitals (Amendment) [Lords] [261]	*Lord E. Fitzmaurice*	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Justices' Disqualification Repeal (Scotland) [140]	*Mr. Cochrane* - -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
*Land Charges [Lords] [173] - - -	*Mr. Attorney-General*	*Withdrawn*, Aug. 2.
Land Dedication [274] - - - -	*Sir John Brunner* -	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
*Land Tax Commissioners' Names [216]	*Mr. Hanbury* - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
Leasehold Enfranchisement (England and Wales) [30]	*Mr. Billson* - -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Leasehold Enfranchisement (England and Wales) (No. 2) [66]	*General Laurie* -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Libel Law Amendment [39] - -	*Sir John Willox* -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Licensed Premises (Hours of Sale) (Scotland) [304]	*Mr. Provand* - -	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Licensing (Disqualification of Justices Removal) [Lords] [ ]	- - - - -	*Brought from the Lords*, May 18.
*Licensing Exemption (Houses of Parliament) [1]	*Lord Stanley* - -	*Withdrawn*, July 17.
Limitations [142] - - - - -	*Mr. Clare* - -	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Lincolnshire Coroners [Lords] [235] -	*Mr. Perks* - - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
Liquor Traffic Local Veto [42] - -	*Sir Wilfrid Lawson* -	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Liquor Traffic Local Veto (Scotland) [12]	*Mr. Colville* - -	*2nd Reading put off for six months*, May 3.
Liquor Traffic Local Veto (Wales) [16]	*Mr. Ellis Griffith* -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Local Authorities Servants' Superannuation [105]	*Colonel Dalbiac* -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Local Government Act (1888) Amendment [107]	*Mr. Bigwood* - -	*Withdrawn*, July 31.
Local Government Act (1894) Amendment [126]	*Mr. Ascroft* - -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Local Government (Scotland) [138] -	*Mr. Nicol* - -	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Local Government (Scotland) Act (1894) Amendment [177]	*Captain Sinclair* -	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Local Government (Scotland) Act (1894) Amendment (No. 2) [184]	*Mr. Alexander Cross*	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Local Government (Scotland) Act (1894) Amendment (No. 3) [273]	*Sir Charles Cameron*	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
*London Government [93] [217] - -	*Mr. Balfour* - -	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
Lunacy [Lords] [225] - - - -	*Secretary Sir Matthew White Ridley*	*Withdrawn*, July 31.
Manchester Canonries [Lords] [262] -	*Sir William Maclure*	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
Marriages Validity (No. 2) [Lords] [272]	- - - - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
Merchandise Marks Act (1887) Amendment [95]	*Sir Howara Vincent*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
*Merchant Seamen (Rating Certificates) [158]	*Mr. Havelock Wilson*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Merchant Shipping (Limitation of Liability of Shipowners) [221]	*Mr. Charles M'Arthur*	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Metropolis Management Acts Amendment (Bye-Laws) [Lords] [210]	*Mr. Stuart* - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 1.
Metropolis Water [65] - - -	*Mr. Harry Samuel* -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
*Metropolitan Police (Salaries) [264] -	*Secretary Sir Matthew White Ridley*	*Withdrawn*, July 12.
*Metropolitan Police [277] - - -	*Secretary Sir Matthew White Ridley*	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
Metropolitan Sewers and Drains [223]	*Mr. James Stuart* -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
*Metropolitan Streets Act (1867) Amendment [78]	*Secretary Sir Matthew White Ridley*	*Withdrawn*, July 17.
*Metropolitan Water Companies [79] [146]	*Mr. Chaplain* -	*Royal Assent*, June 6
Midwives [31] - - - - - -	*Mr. J. B. Balfour* -	Adjourned Debate on 2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
*Military Works [249] - - - -	*Mr. Wyndham* -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
Mines (Eight Hours) [17]	*Mr. Brynmor Jones* -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
*Money-Lending [Lords] [215] - -	*Mr. T. W. Russell* -	*Withdrawn*, July 17.
National Monuments in Churches [Lords] [183]	*Sir Elliott Lees* -	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.

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Title of Bill.	Brought in by	Progress.
*Naval Works [278]	*Mr. Goschen*	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
Occupying Tenants' Enfranchisement [53]	*Mr. Bartley*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Old Age Pensions [6]	*Sir Fortescue Flannery*	Adjourned Debate on 2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Old Age Pensions (No. 2) [21]	*Sir James Rankin*	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Old Age Pensions (No. 3) [68]	*Mr. Bousfield*	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Old Age Pensions (Friendly Societies) [132]	*Mr. Strachey*	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Old Age Provident Pensions [41]	*Mr. Bartley*	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Outdoor Provident Relief [54]	*Mr. Bartley*	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Oysters [73]	*Major Rasch*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
*Palatine Court of Durham [Lords] [119]	*Mr. Attorney-General*	*Withdrawn*, July 31.
*Parish Churches (Scotland) [Lords] [198]	*The Lord Advocate*	*Withdrawn*, July 17.
Parish Councillors (Tenure of Office) [69]	*Mr. Lambert*	*Royal Assent*, June 20.
Parish Councils Association (Scotland) [112]	*Mr. Hedderwick*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Parliamentary Deposits [136]	*Mr. Butcher*	*Withdrawn*, July 31.
Partridge Shooting (Ireland) [89]	*Mr. John Redmond*	*Royal Assent*, Mar. 27.
*Patriotic Fund [292]	*Mr. George Wyndham*	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
Pensions (Old Age) [9]	*Mr. Herbert Whiteley*	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Pensions (Old Age) (No. 2) [45]	*Sir Walter Foster*	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Permissive Licensing Powers (Scotland) [124]	*Mr. Pirie*	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Petroleum [4]	*Mr. Reckitt*	*2nd Reading put off for six months*, Mar. 16.
Petty Customs Abolition (Scotland) [290]	*Captain Sinclair*	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Placards on Streets (Ireland) [23]	*Mr. T. D. Sullivan*	*Withdrawn*, Feb. 20.
Places of Worship (Leasehold Enfranchisement) [20]	*Mr. Clough*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Poor Law Acts Amendment [71]	*Mr. Flower*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
*Poor Law Acts Amendment [Lords] [282]	*Mr. T. W. Russell*	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
Poor Law Officers' Superannuation Act (1896) Amendment [60]	*Sir John William Maclure*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Poor Law Officers' Superannuation (Scotland) [59]	*Sir Mark Stewart*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
*Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) [80] [244] [279]	*The Lord Advocate*	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
Public Health Acts Amendment [24]	*Sir Alfred Hickman*	Reported without Amendment, June 28.
Public Libraries (Scotland) Acts Amendment [63]	*Sir Robert Reid*	*Royal Assent*, June 6.
*Public Works (Loans) [271]	*Mr. Hanbury*	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
Quarries [245]	*Mr. Alfred Pease*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Railway Wrecking [170]	*Mr. Ascroft*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Rating of Machinery [14]	*Mr. Strachey*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Reformatory Schools Amendment [Lords] [252]	*Mr. Paulton*	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
Registration of Electors (England) [234]	*Mr. R. G. Webster*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Registration of Firms [76]	*Sir Stafford Northcote*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
*Regulation of Railways [99]	*Mr. Ritchie*	*Withdrawn*, June 19.
*Reserve Forces [291]	*Mr. George Wyndham*	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
Rivers Pollution Prevention [18]	*Mr. Wilson-Todd*	Adjourned Debate on Amendment to 2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Rivers Pollution (Prevention) (No. 2) [28]	*Sir Francis Powell*	*Withdrawn*, Mar. 8.
Roman Catholic Disabilities Removal [46]	*Mr. Patrick O'Brien*	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
*Royal Niger Company [260]	*Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer*	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
*Sale of Food and Drugs [90] [196]	*Mr. Long*	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
Sale of Intoxicating Liquors (Ireland) [43]	*Sir Thomas Lea*	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.

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Title of Bill.	Brought in by	Progress.
Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday [35]	*Mr. Charles Henry Wilson*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Salmon Fisheries (Ireland) Acts Amendment [117]	*Mr. Seton-Karr* -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
School Board Conferences (Scotland) [108]	*Mr. Parker Smith* -	*Withdrawn*, July 14.
School Board Electorate (Scotland) [106]	*Mr. Weir* - - -	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
School Boards (Grants to Voluntary Schools) [32]	*Mr. Warr* - -	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Sea Fisheries Regulation (Scotland) Act (1895) Amendment [27]	*Mr. Crombie* - -	*2nd Reading negatived*, July 5.
Sea Fisheries [Lords] [ ] - - -	- - - - - -	*Brought from the Lords*, July 18.
Seats for Shop Assistants (England and Ireland) [169] [297] [Changed to Seats for Shop Assistants]	*Sir John Lubbock* -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
Seats for Shop Assistants (Scotland) [82]	*Mr. Souttar* - -	*Passed*, April 26.
Secondary Education [222] - - -	*Mr. Evelyn Cecil* -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Service Franchise [5] - - - -	*Sir Blundell Maple* -	Adjourned Debate on Amendment proposed on Consideration, as amended Wed. Aug. 9.
Shop Hours Act (1892) Amendment [238]	*Mr. Steadman* - -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Shops [51] - - - - - - -	*Sir Charles Dilke* -	Adjourned Debate on 2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Shops (Early Closing) [44] - - -	*Sir John Lubbock* -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
*Small Houses (Acquisition of Ownership) [125] [168]	*Mr. Secretary Chamberlain*	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
Small Tenants (Scotland) [129] - -	*Mr. Munro Ferguson*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
*Solicitors [Lords] [120] - - - -	*Mr. Attorney-General*	*Royal Assent*, June 6.
Steam Engines and Boilers (Persons in Charge) [61]	*Mr. Jonathan Samuel*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Stolen Goods [159] - - - -	*Sir Howard Vincent* -	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Street Noises [38] - - - -	*Mr. Jacoby* - -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Succession (Scotland) [37] - - -	*Mr. Thomas Shaw* -	Adjourned Debate on 2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Summary Jurisdiction Act (1879) Amendment [67] [298]	*Mr. Bryn Roberts* -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
Summary Jurisdiction Act (1879) Amendment (No. 2) [74]	*Sir Andrew Scoble* -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Sunday Closing (Wales) Act (1881) Amendment [141]	*Mr. Herbert Roberts* -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
*Supreme Court (Appeals) [Lords] [166]	*Mr. Attorney-General*	*Royal Assent*, June 6.
Superannuation (Metropolis) [64] -	*Colonel Hughes* - -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Tancred's Charities Scheme Confirmation [115]	*Mr. Herbert Robertson*	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
Teinds (Scotland) [139] - - -	*Mr. Nicol* - -	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
*Telegraph (Channel Islands) [Lords] [123]	*Mr. Hanbury* - -	*Withdrawn*, Aug. 1.
*Telegraphs (Telephonic Communication, &c.) [118] [263]	*Mr. Hanbury* - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
Temperance Reform (Threefold Option) (Scotland) [109]	*Mr. Parker Smith* -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
*Tithe Rent-charge (Ireland) [199] -	*Mr. Gerald Balfour* -	*Withdrawn*, July 17.
*Tithe Rent-charge (Rates) [248] - -	*Mr. Long* - - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 1.
Town Councils (Scotland) [47] - -	*Mr. J. B. Balfour* -	Committed to a Select Committee, April 25.
Town Tenants (Ireland) [62] - -	*Mr. Field* - - -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Trade Marks [287] - - - -	*Mr. Moulton* - -	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Trawlers' Certificates Suspension [Lords] [257]	*Mr. Hedderwick* -	*Withdrawn*, July 17.
*Trout Fishing Annual Close Time (Scotland) [Lords] [197]	*The Lord Advocate* -	*Withdrawn*, July 17.
Truck Acts Amendment [75] - -	*Mr. Galloway* - -	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].

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Title of Bill.	Brought in by	Progress.
Truck Acts Amendment (No. 2) [156]	*Mr. Broadhurst*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Truck Acts Amendment (No. 3) [167]	*Captain Norton*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Trustee Savings Banks [226]	*Sir Albert Rollit*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
*Undersized Fish [229]	*Mr. Ritchie*	*Withdrawn*, July 17.
*Universities (Scotland) Acts Amendment [92]	*The Lord Advocate*	*Withdrawn*, July 17.
University Degrees [25]	*Mr. J. W. Sidebotham*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
*University of London Act (1898) Amendment [267]	*Sir John Gorst*	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
University of Wales (Graduates) [160]	*Mr. Brynmor Jones*	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Vaccination (Conscientious Objectors) [72]	*Mr. Boulnois*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Vagrants' Children Protection [299]	*Mr. Drage*	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Watermen's Certificates [130]	*Mr. Steadman*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Water Supply [34]	*Mr. Cornwallis*	*Withdrawn*, July 25.
Weights and Measures [161]	*Mr. Bousfield*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Wild Birds Protection [83]	*Mr. Bigwood*	*Withdrawn*, July 31.
Wine and Beerhouse Acts Amendment [122]	*Mr. Herbert Lewis*	*2nd Reading put off for three months*, June 7.
Working Men's Dwellings [96]	*Sir Howard Vincent*	2nd Reading, Wed. Aug. 9.
Workmen's Compensation Act (1897) Amendment [22]	*Mr. Lionel Holland*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Workmen's Compensation Act (1897) Amendment (No. 2) [103]	*Mr. Woods*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Workmen's Houses Tenure [81]	*Mr. Colville*	2nd Reading [*Dropped*].
Youthful Offenders [Lords] [ ]	- - - -	*Brought from the Lords*, July 13.

PROVISIONAL ORDER BILLS.

Provisional Orders when reported not confirmed or not proceeded with are printed in Italics.

Title of Bill.	Brought in by	Progress.
*Broughty Ferry Gas and Paving Order [Lords] [174]	- - - - -	*Royal Assent*, June 20.
*Burgh Police (Scotland) Provisional Order [Paisley Corporation Gas Supply [246]	*The Lord Advocate*	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 1.
*Education Department Provisional Orders Confirmation [Aberavon, Croydon, Walthamstow, Willesden] [Lords] [176]	- - - - -	*Royal Assent*, June 20.
*Education Department Provisional Order Confirmation [Liverpool] [Lords] [228]	- - - - -	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
*Education Department Provisional Order Confirmation (London) [Lords] [253]	- - - - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
*Education Department Provisional Order Confirmation [Swansea] [Lords] [143]	- - - - -	*Royal Assent*, June 6.
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 1) [Castleford, East Barnet Valley, Grays Thurrock, Mexborough, Sutton Coldfield, Worksop] [144]	*Mr. Ritchie*	*Royal Assent*, June 20.
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 2) [Aylesbury, Hartlepool, Ystradyfodwg (Maerdy), Mansfield, Wath-upon-Dearne, Winsford] [145]	*Mr. Ritchie*	*Royal Assent*, June 20.

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Title of Bill.	Brought in by	Progress.
*Electric Lighting Provisional Order (No. 3) [Bermondsey] [148]	*Mr. Ritchie* - -	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
*Elecric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 4) [Audenshaw, Bexley, Glossop, Rhyl, Rugby, Runcorn] [150]	*Mr. Ritchie* - -	*Royal Assent*, June 20.
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 5) [Alloa, Dumfries, Inverness, Kilmarnock] [151]	*Mr. Ritchie* - -	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 6) [Ashford (Kent), Bognor, Burslem (Extension), Cheltenham (Extension), Durham, Haslingden, Ilkeston] [152]	*Mr. Ritchie* - -	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 7) [Gorton, Heaton Norris, Keighley, Knutsford, Ryde, Walker] [153]	*Mr. Ritchie* - -	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 8) [Cheriton, Cromer, Erith, Farnborough, Horsham, Teignmouth] [154]	*Mr. Ritchie* - -	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
*Electric Lighting Provisional Order (No. 9) [Clontarf] [Lords] [231]	- - -	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 10) [Camborne, Dukinfield, Fenton, Finchley, Shipley, and Swinton [Lords] [236]	- - - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 1.
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 11) [East Retford, Failsworth, Pemberton, Stourbridge, Swinton and Pendlebury, and Wednesbury] [Lords] [232]	- - - - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 1.
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 12) [Heywood, Longton, Ludlow, Mirfield, Newcastle-under-Lyme, and Rawtenstall] [Lords] [242]	- - - - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 1.
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 13) [Arbroath, Hawick, Kirkcaldy, and Musselburgh] [Lords] [250]	- - - - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 1.
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 14) [Crayford, Halesowen, Handsworth, Lye and Wollescote, and Lymington] [Lords] [237]	- - - - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 1.
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 15) [Bethnal Green, Blackheath, and Greenwich District (Extension), Lewisham District, and Plumstead] [Lords] [243]	- - - - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 1.
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 16) [Broadstairs, Christchurch and District, Guildford (Extension), Newport (Isle of Wight), Sandown and Shanklin, Westgate and Birchington] [182]	*Mr. Ritchie* - -	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 17) [Carshalton, Gateshead, Merthyr Tydfil, Newton Abbot] [200]	*Mr. Ritchie* - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 1.
*Electric Lighting Provisional Order (No. 18) [Royal Leamington Spa] [201]	*Mr. Ritchie* - -	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 19) [Bournemouth (Public Purposes), Eastbourne, Hendon, and Extension of Area of Supply of Midland Electric Corporation for Power Distribution (Limited) [203]	*Mr. Ritchie* - -	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
*Electric Lighting Provisional Order (No. 20) [City of London] [230]	*Mr. Ritchie* - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.

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Title of Bill.	Brought in by	Progress.
*Gas Orders Confirmation (No. 1) [Alton (Hants) Gas, Bedworth Gas, Elstree and Boreham Wood Gas, Limavady Gas, and Wellingborough Gas] [Lords] [239]	- - - - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 1.
*Gas Orders Confirmation (No. 2) [Farnham Gas, Freshwater Gas, Morecambe Gas, and Newtown and Llanllwchaiarn Gas] [Lords] [259]	- - - - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
*Gas and Water Orders Confirmation [Herne Bay Gas, Hoylake and West Kirby Gas and Water, Tonbridge Gas, and York Town and Blackwater Gas] [Lords] [241]	- - - - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 1.
*Housing of the Working Classes Provisional Order [Borrowstounness] [178]	*The Lord Advocate* -	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
*Local Government Provisional Orders (Gas) [Ashburton, Wallingford, and Wokingham] [186]	*Mr. T. W. Russell* -	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
*Local Government Provisional Order (Housing of Working Classes) [Brighton] [187]	*Mr. T. W. Russell* -	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
*Local Government Provisional Orders (Poor Law) [Devonport and St. Mary, Newington, Greenwich, and Wolverhampton Unions] [204]	*Mr. T. W. Russell* -	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 1) [Manchester, Middlesbrough, Nelson, Southampton, and Stafford] [149]	*Mr. T. W. Russell* -	*Royal Assent*, June 6.
*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 2) [Brentford, Bromley (Kent), Chelmsford, Heston and Isleworth, Ongar (Rural), Reigate (Rural), *Twickenham*, and Watford (Rural)] [163]	*Mr. T. W. Russell* -	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 3) [Durham (Rural), Eastbourne, Honiton (Rural), Grimsby, Ilfracombe, Lichfield (Rural), Ludlow, and Rotherham (Rural)] [164]	*Mr. T. W. Russell* -	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 4) [Bristol, Cheltenham, Ealing, Gelligaer and Rhigos (Rural), Leicester (three), Newmarket, Scarborough, Tonbridge (Rural), Wallasey, and West Ham] [188]	*Mr. T. W. Russell* -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 1.
*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 5) [Ashton-in-Makerfield, Ashton-under-Lyne, Bolton, Llandudno, Rotherham, Southport (two), and York] [189]	*Mr. T. W. Russell* -	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 6) [Aberavon, Barry, Brixworth (Rural), Hambledon (Rural), Manchester, Pontypridd, Rickmansworth, and Swadlincote] [190]	*Mr. T. W. Russell* -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 1.
*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 7) [Barnstaple and Halifax, and Counties of East Sussex, and Middlesex] [192]	*Mr. T. W. Russell* -	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 8) [Bath (three), Devonport (two), Margate and Oxford, and to the Romford and Wallingford and Crowmarsh United Districts] [193]	*Mr. T. W. Russell* -	*Royal Assent*, July 13.

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Title of Bill.	Brought in by	Progress.
*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 9) [the Luddenden Foot, the Ludworth and Mellor, the Oakwell, and the Portslade and Southwick United Districts] [205]	*Mr. T. W. Russell* -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 1.
*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 10) [*Bradford* (*Yorks*), Itchen, Kingston-upon-Hull, Ryde and Shifnal (Rural)] [206]	*Mr. T. W. Russell* -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 1.
*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 11) [Croydon (Rural), Jarrow, Ramsgate (two), Ripon, and West Bromwich (two)] [207]	*Mr. T. W. Russell* -	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 12) [Bournemouth, Bradford (Yorks), and Coventry (two)] [211]	*Mr. T. W. Russell* -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 1.
*Local Government Provisional Order (No. 13) [Counties of Warwick and Worcester] [212]	*Mr. T. W. Russell* -	Reported [*Provisional Order not Confirmed*], June 16.
*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 14) [220]		
Divided into two Bills:—		
*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 14) [Isle of Thanet (Rural), Ramsgate and Reading]	*Mr. T. W. Russell* -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
*Local Government Provisional Order (No. 15) [Rhyl] [268]	*Mr. T. W. Russell* -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 1.
*Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Order (No. 1) [Wicklow Harbour] [194]	*Mr. Attorney-General for Ireland*	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
*Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Orders (No. 2) [Dublin, Belfast, Larne, and Longford (Rural)] [195]	*Mr. Attorney-General for Ireland*	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
*Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Orders (No. 3) [Drogheda, Londonderry (Rural) and Tobercurry (Rural)] [208]	*Mr. Attorney-General for Ireland*	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
*Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Order (No. 4) [Dean's Grange Joint Burial Board District] [224]	*Mr. Attorney-General for Ireland*	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 1.
*Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Order (Housing of Working Classes) (Killarney] [209]	*Mr. Attorney-General for Ireland*	*Withdrawn*, June 30.
*Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Orders (Housing of Working Classes) (No. 2) [Waterford and Thurles] [219]	*Mr. Attorney-General for Ireland*	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
*Metropolitan Common Scheme (Harrow Weald) Provisional Order [135]	*Mr. Walter Long* -	*Royal Assent*, June 20.
*Metropolitan Police Provisional Order [Saint Marylebone, Lee, Saint John Horselydown, St. Mary Stratford, Bow, and Saint John-at-Hackney [2]	*Mr. Jesse Collings* -	*Royal Assent*, June 6.
*Military Lands Provisional Order [Great Yarmouth] [213]	*Mr. Wyndham* -	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
*Pier and Harbour Provisional Orders (No. 1) [Blackpool, Lynmouth, and Otter Ferry] [179]	*Mr. Ritchie* - -	*Royal Assent*, July 13.
*Pier and Harbour Provisional Orders (No. 2) [Fleetwood, Innellan, Montrose, and Southwold] [202]	*Mr. Ritchie* - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 1.
*Pilotage Provisional Order [Llanelly and Barry Pilotage District] [157]	*Mr. Ritchie* - -	*Royal Assent*, June 20.

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Title of Bill.	Brought in by	Progress.
*St. Andrews Burgh Provisional Order [Lords] [165]	- - - - -	*Royal Assent*, June 6.
*Tramways Orders Confirmation (No. 1) [Aberdeen Corporation Tramways, Devonport Corporation Tramways, Halifax Corporation Tramways, Matlock Urban District Tramways, Perth and District Tramways, and Reading Corporation Tramways] [Lords] [247]	- - - - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 1.
*Tramways Orders Confirmation (No. 2) [Audenshaw Urban District Tramways, Clayton Tramways, Eccles Corporation Tramways, Ilkeston Corporation Tramways, Queensbury Tramway, and Southport Corporation Tramways [Lords] [255]	- - - - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
*Tramways Orders Confirmation (No. 3) [Barking Town Urban District Tramways, Blackpool Corporation Tramways, Dudley and Wolverhampton Tramways, Gravesend, Rosherville, and Northfleet Tramways, Ilford Urban District Tramways, and Wrexham District Tramways [Lords] [256]	- - - - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 9.
*Water Orders Confirmation [Burnham and District Water, Harpenden Water, Maidstone Water, Stourbridge Water, and Tilehurst, Pangbourne, and District Water] [Lords] [240]	- - - - -	*Royal Assent*, Aug. 1.

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PUBLIC BILLS.

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons, Dated 1 August 1899;—*for*,

RETURN of the Number of PUBLIC BILLS, distinguishing Government from other Bills, introduced into this House, or brought from the House of Lords, during the Session of 1899; showing the Number which received the Royal Assent; the Number which were Passed by this House, but not by the House of Lords; the Number Passed by the House of Lords, but not by this House; and distinguishing the Stages at which such Bills as did not receive the Royal Assent were Dropped or Postponed and Rejected in either House of Parliament (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper, No. 0.283, of Session 1898).

[SESSION 1899.]

BILLS WHICH RECEIVED THE ROYAL ASSENT.

N.B.—Bills marked thus (*) are Government Bills.

TITLE OF BILL.	TITLE OF BILL.
*Agriculture and Technical Instruction (Ireland).	Manchester Canonries [*Lords*].
*Anchors and Chain Cables.	Marriages Validity (No. 2) [*Lords*].
*Army (Annual).	Metropolis Management Acts Amendment (Bye-Laws) [*Lords*].
Baths and Washhouses Acts Amendment.	*Metropolitan Police.
*Board of Education [*Lords*].	*Metropolitan Water Companies.
*Bodies Corporate (Joint Tenancy) [*Lords*].	*Military Works.
*Colonial Loans.	*Naval Works.
Commons and Open Spaces [*Lords*].	Parish Councillors (Tenure of Office).
*Congested Districts Board (Ireland).	Partridge Shooting (Ireland).
*Consolidated Fund (Appropriation).	*Patriotic Fund.
*Consolidated Fund (No. 1).	*Poor Law Acts Amendment [*Lords*].
Education of Children.	*Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland).
*Electric Lighting (Clauses).	Public Libraries (Scotland) Acts Amendment.
*Elementary Education (Defective and Epileptic Children) [*Lords*].	*Public Works (Loans).
*Expiring Laws Continuance.	Reformatory Schools Amendment [*Lords*].
*Farnley Tyas Marriages.	*Reserve Forces.
*Finance.	*Royal Niger Company.
Fine or Imprisonment (Scotland and Ireland).	*Sale of Food and Drugs.
*Gordon Memorial College at Khartoum [*Lords*].	Seats for Shop Assistants.
*Improvement of Land.	*Small Houses (Acquisition of Ownership).
*Inebriates Act (1898) Amendment.	*Solicitors [*Lords*].
Infectious Disease (Notification) Act (1889) Extension.	Summary Jurisdiction Act (1879) Amendment.
*Isle of Man (Customs).	*Supreme Court (Appeals) [*Lords*].
*Land Tax Commissioners' Names.	Tancred's Charities Scheme Confirmation.
Lincolnshire Coroners [*Lords*].	*Telegraphs (Telephonic Communication, &c.)
*London Government.	*Tithe Rentcharge Rates.
	*University of London Act (1898) Amendment.

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PROVISIONAL ORDER BILLS WHICH RECEIVED THE ROYAL ASSENT.

TITLE OF BILL.	TITLE OF BILL.
*Broughty Ferry Gas and Paving Order [*Lords*].	*Local Government Provisional Order (Housing of Working Classes) (Brighton).
*Burgh Police (Scotland) Provisional Order (Paisley Corporation Gas Supply).	*Local Government Provisional Orders (Poor Law) (Devonport and St. Mary, Newington, Greenwich, and Wolverhampton Unions).
*Education Department Provisional Orders Confirmation (Aberavon, Croydon, Walthamstow, Willesden) [*Lords*].	*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 1).
*Education Department Provisional Order Confirmation (Liverpool) [*Lords*].	*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 2).
*Education Department Provisional Order Confirmation (London) [*Lords*].	*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 3).
*Education Department Provisional Order Confirmation (Swansea) [*Lords*].	*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 4).
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 1).	*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 5).
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 2).	*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 6).
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 3).	*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 7).
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 4).	*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 8).
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 5).	*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 9).
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 6).	*Local Government Provisional Orders No. 10).
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 7).	*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 11).
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 8).	*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 12).
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 9) [*Lords*].	*Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 14). Divided into two Bills :— { *Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 14). *Local Government Provisional Order (No. 15).
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 10) [*Lords*].	*Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Order (No. 1).
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 11) [*Lords*].	*Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Orders (No. 2).
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 12) [*Lords*].	*Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Orders (No. 3).
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 13) [*Lords*].	*Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Order (No. 4).
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 14) [*Lords*].	*Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Orders (Housing of Working Classes) (No. 2).
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 15) [*Lords*].	*Metropolitan Common Scheme (Harrow Weald) Provisional Order.
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 16).	*Metropolitan Police Provisional Order.
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 17).	*Military Lands Provisional Order.
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 18).	*Pier and Harbour Provisional Orders (No. 1).
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 19).	*Pier and Harbour Provisional Orders (No. 2).
*Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 20).	*Pilotage Provisional Order.
*Gas Orders Confirmation (No. 1) [*Lords*].	*St. Andrews Burgh Provisional Order [*Lords*].
*Gas Orders Confirmation (No. 2) [*Lords*].	*Tramways Orders Confirmation (No. 1) [*Lords*].
*Gas and Water Orders Confirmation (Herne Bay Gas, Hoylake and West Kirby Gas and Water, Tonbridge Gas, and York Town and Blackwater Gas) [*Lords*].	*Tramways Orders Confirmation (No. 2) [*Lords*].
*Housing of the Working Classes Provisional Order (Borrowstounness).	*Tramways Orders Confirmation (No. 3) [*Lords*].
*Local Government Provisional Orders (Gas) (Ashburton, Wallingford, and Wokingham).	*Water Orders Confirmation [*Lords*].

Government Bills, 37 ; Provisional Order Bills, 63 ; other Bills, 16. - - TOTAL - - 116

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BILLS WHICH WERE INTRODUCED INTO, BUT NOT PASSED BY, THE COMMONS.

Title of Bill.	Stage at which they were Dropped, Postponed, or Rejected, &c.
Adulteration (Food Products)	Second Reading dropped.
Agricultural Holdings	Order for Second Reading discharged.
Ancient Monuments Protection	Second Reading dropped.
Bakehouses	Second Reading dropped.
Bankruptcy Act (1883) Amendment	Second Reading dropped.
Boilers Inspection and Registration	Second Reading dropped.
Building Feus and Leases (Scotland)	Second Reading dropped.
Cemeteries Rating	Second Reading dropped.
Chairmen of Boards of Guardians	Second Reading dropped.
*Charitable Loans (Ireland)	Order for Second Reading discharged.
Cheap Trains	Second Reading dropped.
Church Discipline	Second Reading negatived, May 10.
Coal Mines Regulation	Second Reading dropped.
*Colonial Loans Fund	Order for Committee (Progress) discharged.
Colonial Marriages	Second Reading dropped.
Colonial Solicitors	Second Reading dropped.
Companies Acts Amendment	Second Reading dropped.
Constructive Murder Law Amendment	Second Reading dropped.
Coroners' Inquest (Railway Fatalities)	Second Reading dropped.
Cottage Homes	Reported without Amendment.
County Councillors (Qualification of Women) (Scotland).	Second Reading dropped.
Court of Criminal Appeal	Second Reading dropped.
Criminal Law and Procedure (Ireland) Act (1887) Repeal.	Second Reading put off for six months, April 19.
Crofters' Holdings (Scotland) Act (1886) Amendment.	Second Reading dropped.
Crown Cases	Second Reading dropped.
Distress (Abolition and Substitution)	Second Reading dropped.
Drainage Separation	Second Reading dropped.
Ecclesiastical Assessments (Scotland)	Order for Committee (Progress) discharged
Education (England and Wales)	Second Reading dropped
Education (School Attendance) (Scotland)	Second Reading dropped.
Electric Lighting Act (1882) Amendment	Second Reading dropped.
Elementary Education (New Bye-laws)	Adjourned Debate on Second Reading dropped.
Employers and Workmen Law Amendment	Second Reading dropped.
Evicted Tenants (Ireland) Reinstatement	Second Reading negatived, April 12.
Executors (Scotland) Amendment	Committee (Progress) dropped.
Factories and Workshops	Second Reading dropped.
Factories and Workshops Amendment and Consolidation.	Second Reading dropped.
Fire Brigades	Order for Second Reading discharged.
Fisheries (Ireland) Acts Amendment	Second Reading dropped.
Floods Prevention	Second Reading dropped.
Franchise and Removal of Women's Disabilities.	Second Reading dropped.
Government of Scotland	Second Reading dropped.
Grocers' Licences (Scotland) Abolition	Second Reading dropped.
Ground Values (Taxation) (Scotland)	Second Reading dropped.
Highways and Bridges Act (1891) Amendment	Second Reading dropped.
Home Industries	Second Reading dropped.
Housing of the Working Classes	Second Reading dropped.
Imbeciles (Training Institutions)	Second Reading dropped.
Incest (Punishment)	Second Reading dropped.
Indecent Advertisements	Second Reading dropped.
Indictments	Second Reading dropped.
Intoxicating Liquors Local Veto (Ireland)	Second Reading dropped.
Intoxicating Liquors (Sunday Closing)	Adjourned Debate on Amendment to Second Reading dropped.
Justices' Disqualification Repeal (Scotland)	Second Reading dropped.

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Bills which were Introduced into, but not Passed by, the Commons—*cont.*

Title of Bill.	Stage at which they were Dropped, Postponed, or Rejected, &c.
Land Dedication	Second Reading dropped.
Leasehold Enfranchisement (England and Wales).	Second Reading dropped.
Leasehold Enfranchisement (England and Wales) (No. 2).	Second Reading dropped.
Libel Law Amendment	Second Reading dropped.
Licensed Premises (Hours of Sale) (Scotland)	Second Reading dropped.
*Licensing Exemption (Houses of Parliament)	Order for Second Reading discharged.
Limitations	Second Reading dropped.
Liquor Traffic Local Veto	Second Reading dropped.
Liquor Traffic Local Veto (Scotland)	Second Reading put off for six months.
Liquor Traffic Local Veto (Wales)	Second Reading dropped.
Local Authorities Servants' Superannuation	Second Reading dropped.
Local Government Act (1888) Amendment	Order for Second Reading discharged.
Local Government Act (1894) Amendment	Second Reading dropped.
Local Government (Scotland)	Second Reading dropped.
Local Government (Scotland) Act (1894) Amendment.	Second Reading dropped.
Local Government (Scotland) Act (1894) Amendment (No. 2).	Second Reading dropped.
Local Government (Scotland) Act (1894) Amendment (No. 3).	Second Reading dropped.
Merchandise Marks Act (1887) Amendment	Second Reading dropped.
Merchant Seamen (Rating Certificates)	Second Reading dropped.
Merchant Shipping (Limitation of Liability of Shipowners).	Second Reading dropped.
Metropolis Water	Second Reading dropped.
*Metropolitan Police (Salaries)	Order for Second Reading discharged.
Metropolitan Sewers and Drains	Second Reading dropped.
*Metropolitan Streets Act (1867) Amendment	Order for Second Reading discharged.
Midwives	Adjourned Debate on Second Reading dropped.
Mines (Eight Hours)	Second Reading dropped.
Occupying Tenants' Enfranchisement	Second Reading dropped.
Old Age Pensions	Ajourned Debate on Second Reading dropped.
Old Age Pensions (No. 2)	Second Reading dropped.
Old Age Pensions (No. 3)	Second Reading dropped.
Old Age Pensions (Friendly Societies)	Second Reading dropped.
Old Age Provident Pensions	Second Reading dropped.
Outdoor Provident Relief	Second Reading dropped.
Oysters	Second Reading dropped.
Parish Councils Associations (Scotland)	Second Reading dropped.
Parliamentary Deposits	Order for Second Reading withdrawn.
Pensions (Old Age)	Second Reading dropped.
Pensions (Old Age) (No 2)	Second Reading dropped.
Permissive Licensing Powers (Scotland)	Second Reading dropped.
Petroleum	Second Reading put off for six months.
Petty Customs Abolition (Scotland)	Second Reading dropped.
Placards on Streets (Ireland)	Order for Second Reading discharged.
Places of Worship (Leasehold Enfranchisement).	Second Reading dropped.
Poor Law Acts Amendment	Second Reading dropped.
Poor Law Officers' Superannuation Act (1896) Amendment.	Second Reading dropped.
Poor Law Officers' Superannuation (Scotland)	Second Reading dropped.
Public Health Acts Amendment	Reported without Amendment, June 28.
Quarries	Second Reading dropped.
Railway Wrecking	Second Reading dropped.
Rating of Machinery	Second Reading dropped.
Registration of Electors (England)	Second Reading dropped.
Registration of Firms	Second Reading dropped.
*Regulation of Railways	Order for Second Reading discharged.
Rivers Pollution Prevention	Adjourned Debate on Amendment to Second Reading, dropped.
Rivers Pollution (Prevention) (No. 2)	Order for Second Reading discharged.

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Bills which were Introduced into, but not Passed by, the Commons—*cont.*

Title of Bill.	Stage at which they were Dropped, Postponed, or Rejected, &c.
Roman Catholic Disabilities Removal	Second Reading dropped.
Sale of Intoxicating Liquors (Ireland)	Second Reading dropped.
Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday	Second Reading dropped.
Salmon Fisheries (Ireland) Acts Amendment	Second Reading dropped.
School Board Conferences (Scotland)	Order for Second Reading discharged.
School Board Electorate (Scotland)	Second Reading dropped.
School Boards (Grants to Voluntary Schools)	Second Reading dropped.
Sea Fisheries Regulation (Scotland) Act (1895) Amendment	Second Reading negatived.
Secondary Education	Second Reading dropped.
Service Franchise	Adjourned Debate on Amendment proposed on Consideration, as amended, dropped.
Shop Hours Act (1892) Amendment	Second Reading dropped.
Shops	Adjourned Debate on Second Reading dropped.
Shops (Early Closing)	Second Reading dropped.
Small Tenants (Scotland)	Second Reading dropped.
Steam Engines and Boilers (Persons in Charge)	Second Reading dropped.
Stolen Goods	Second Reading dropped.
Street Noises	Second Reading dropped.
Succession (Scotland)	Adjourned Debate on Second Reading dropped.
Summary Jurisdiction Act (1879) Amendment (No. 2)	Second Reading dropped.
Sunday Closing (Wales) Act (1881) Amendment	Second Reading dropped
Superannuation (Metropolis)	Second Reading dropped.
Teinds (Scotland)	Second Reading dropped.
Temperance Reform (Threefold Option) (Scotland)	Second Reading dropped.
Tithe Rentcharge (Ireland)	Order for Second Reading discharged
Town Councils (Scotland)	Committed to a Select Committee.
Town Tenants (Ireland)	Second Reading dropped.
Trade Marks	Second Reading dropped.
Truck Acts Amendments	Second Reading dropped.
Truck Acts Amendment (No. 2)	Second Reading dropped.
Truck Acts Amendment (No. 3)	Second Reading dropped.
Trustee Savings Banks	Second Reading dropped.
*Undersized Fish	Order for Second Reading discharged.
*Universities (Scotland) Acts Amendment	Order for Second Reading discharged.
University Degrees	Second Reading dropped.
University of Wales (Graduates)	Second Reading dropped.
Vaccination (Conscientious Objectors)	Second Reading dropped.
Vagrants' Children Protection	Second Reading dropped.
Watermen's Certificates	Second Reading dropped.
Water Supply	Order for Second Reading discharged.
Weights and Measures	Second Reading dropped.
Wild Birds Protection	Order for Second Reading discharged.
Wine and Beerhouse Acts Amendment	Second Reading put off for three months.
Working Men's Dwellings	Second Reading dropped.
Workmen's Compensation Act (1897) Amendment	Second Reading dropped.
Workmen's Compensation Act (1897) Amendment (No. 2)	Second Reading dropped.
Workmen's Houses Tenure	Second Reading dropped.

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PROVISIONAL ORDER BILLS.

Title of Bill.	Stage at which they were Dropped, Postponed, or Rejected, &c.
*Local Government Provisional Order (No. 13)	Reported [Provisional Order not confirmed].
*Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Order (Housing of Working Classes) - - -	Order for Committal discharged.

Government Bills, 8; Provisional Order Bills, 2; other Bills, 147 - - - Total - 157.

BILLS WHICH WERE PASSED BY THE LORDS, BUT NOT BY THE COMMONS.

Title of Bill.	Stage at which they were Dropped, Postponed, or Rejected, &c.
Companies - - - - - - - - -	Not read a first time.
*Congested Districts (Scotland) Act Amendment - - - - - - - - - -	Order for Second Reading discharged.
Isolation Hospitals (Amendment) - -	Second Reading dropped.
*Land Charges - - - - - - - -	Order for Second Reading discharged.
*Licensing (Disqualification of Justices Removal) - - - - - - - - -	Not read a first time.
*Lunacy - - - - - - - - -	Order for Second Reading discharged.
*Money Lending - - - - - - -	Order for Second Reading discharged.
National Monuments in Churches - -	Second Reading dropped.
*Palatine Court of Durham - - - -	Order for Second Reading discharged.
*Parish Churches (Scotland) - - - -	Order for Second Reading discharged.
Sea Fisheries - - - - - - -	Not read a first time.
*Telegraph (Channel Islands) - - -	Order for Committee discharged.
Trawlers' Certificates Suspension - -	Order for Second Reading discharged.
*Trout Fishing Annual Close Time (Scotland)	Order for Second Reading discharged.
Youthful Offenders - - - - - -	Not read a first time.

Government Bills, 8; other Bills, 7 - - - Total - 15.

BILL PASSED BY THE COMMONS, BUT NOT BY THE LORDS.

Title of Bill.	Stage at which Postponed.
Seats for Shop Assistants (Scotland) - -	Second reading put off for six months.

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GENERAL SUMMARY.

Total Number of Bills which received the Royal Assent:		
(1.) Introduced into this House - - - - - -	40	
(2.) Brought from the Lords - - - - - - -	13	
(3.) Provisional Order Bills - - - - - - -	63	
		116
Total Number of Bills introduced into, but not passed by, the Commons		157
Total Number of Bills brought from the Lords, but not passed by the Commons - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		15
Total Number of Bills passed by the Commons, but not by the Lords -		1
TOTAL - - -		289

Public Bill Office,
August, 1899.

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PRIVATE BILLS AND PRIVATE BUSINESS.

Return to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 1 August 1899;—*for*,

RETURN of the Number of PRIVATE BILLS, HYBRID BILLS, and Bills for Confirming Provisional Orders introduced into the HOUSE OF COMMONS, and brought from the HOUSE of LORDS, and of ACTS passed in the Session of 1899, classed according to the following Subjects:—Railways; Tramways; Tramroads; Subways; Canals and Navigations; Roads and Bridges; Water; Gas; Gas and Water; Improvement; Police and Sanitary Regulations; Corporations, &c. (not relating to Police and Sanitary Regulations); Ports, Piers, Harbours, and Docks; Churches, Chapels, and Burying Grounds; Markets and Fairs; Inclosure and Drainage; Estate; Divorce; Naturalization; and Miscellaneous:

Of all the PRIVATE BILLS, HYBRID BILLS, and Bills for Confirming Provisional Orders, which, in the Session of 1899, have been reported on by Committees on Opposed Private Bills, or by Committees nominated partly by the House and partly by the Committee of Selection; together with the Names of the Selected Members who served on each Committee; the First and also the Last Day of the Sitting of each Committee; the Number of Days on which each Committee sat; the Number of Days on which each Selected Member has served; the Number of Days occupied by each Bill in Committee; the Bills the Preambles of which were reported to have been Proved; the Bills the Preambles of which were reported to have been Not Proved; and in the case of Bills for Confirming Provisional Orders, whether the Provisional Orders ought or ought not to be Confirmed:

Of all PRIVATE BILLS and Bills for Confirming Provisional Orders, which, in the Session of 1899, have been referred by the Committee of Selection, or by the General Committee on Railway and Canal Bills, to the Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means; together with the Names of the Members who served on each Committee; the Number of Days on which each Committee sat; and the Number of Days on which each Member attended:

And, of the Number of PRIVATE BILLS, HYBRID BILLS, and Bills for Confirming Provisional Orders Withdrawn, or not proceeded with by the parties, those Bills being specified which have been referred to Committees, and dropped during the Sittings of the Committee (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper, No. 0.278, of Session 1898).—*Dr. Farquharson.*

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INDEX of MEMBERS' NAMES, with a Reference to the GROUP on which they Served.

Members whose names are marked with an asterisk (*) were appointed to Committees, but did not serve.

NAME.	GROUP.
A.	
Allison, Mr.	7.
Arnold, Mr.	7.
Arnold-Forster, Mr.	D.
Ashton, Mr.	2.
B.	
Bagot, Capt.	D.
Bailey, Mr. Jas.	7.
Balcarres, Lord	3.
Baldwin, Mr.	A.
Bathurst, Mr.	5.
*Bayley, Mr.	1.
Beaumont, Mr. W.	L.
Bemrose, Sir H.	P. & S.
Bentinck, Lord H.	F.
Bethell, Commander	G.
Bhownaggree, Sir M. M.	9.
Bill, Mr.	P. & S.
Billson, Mr.	6.
Bonham-Carter, Mr. (Referee)	C. G. K.
Brown, Mr. A. H.	F.
Brunner, Sir J.	B.
C.	
Caldwell, Mr.	H.
Carew, Mr.	1.
Carlisle, Mr.	1.
Carmichael, Sir T. L. Gibson	F.
Cavendish, Mr. R. F.	J.
Cecil, Mr. E.	A.
Clough, Mr.	E.
Coddington, Sir W.	F.
Colville, Mr.	E.
Compton, Lord A.	7.
Crombie, Mr.	K.
~~Cross, Mr. A.~~	~~2.~~
Cruddas, Mr.	E.
Cubitt, Mr.	E.
D.	
Dalkeith, Lord	2.
Davies, Mr. V.	M.
Duckworth, Mr.	C.
E.	
Edwards, Mr. O.	K.
Egerton, Mr. A. de T.	8.
F.	
Fardell, Sir G.	B.
Fison, Mr.	H.
Fletcher, Sir H.	J.
Folkestone, Lord	2.
*Fox, Dr.	P. & S.
G.	
Garfit, Mr.	H.
Goddard, Mr.	3.
Green, Mr. R.	2.
Gull, Sir C.	C.
Gunter, Colonel	K.
Gurdon, Sir W. B.	J.
H.	
Hardy, Mr. L.	M.
Harwood, Mr.	4.
Hayne, Mr. Seale	2, 9.
Hazell, Mr	A.
Hedderwick, Mr.	1.
Hoare, Mr. S.	4.
Hobhouse, Mr.	1.
Hodge, Mr. H.	K.
Hogan, Mr.	9.
Horniman, Mr.	8.
Houldsworth, Sir W.	L.
Howard, Mr.	M.
*Hutton, Mr. J.	P. & S.
J.	
Jeffreys, Mr.	5.
Johnson-Ferguson, Mr.	H.
Jones, Mr. W.	B.
K.	
Kay-Shuttleworth, Sir U.	7.
Kennaway, Sir J.	9.
Kinloch, Sir J.	4.
Kitson, Sir J.	G.
L.	
Langley, Mr. B.	9.
Lees, Sir E.	8.
Leuty, Mr.	F. P. & S.
Long, Colonel	C.

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INDEX of MEMBERS' NAMES, with a Reference to the GROUP on which they have Served—*continued.*

NAME.	GROUP.
L.	
Lorne, Marquis of	3.
*Lough, Mr.	1.
Loyd, Mr. A. K.	F.
Lyell, Sir L.	J.
M.	
Macdona, Mr. C.	L.
M'Ghee, Mr.	F.
McIver, Sir L.	6.
McKenna, Mr.	P. & S.
McKillop, Mr.	P. & S.
Maddison, Mr.	G.
Maxwell, Sir J. S.	K.
Mendl, Mr.	7.
Molloy, Mr.	7.
*Morgan, Mr. Lloyd	9.
Morley, Mr. C.	8.
Morrell, Mr.	7.
*Morton, Mr. E. J. C.	1.
Murray, Mr. C. J.	6.
Myers, Mr.	E.
N.	
Newdigate, Mr.	4.
Northcote, Sir S.	P. & S.
Nussey, Mr.	D.
O.	
Oldroyd, Mr.	K.
P.	
*Parkes, Mr.	P. & S.
Pease, Sir J.	D.
Phillpotts, Captain	9.
Pilkington, Sir G.	M.
P.	
Price, Mr.	E.
Pryce-Jones, Col.	K.
*Pym, Mr.	K.
R.	
*Renshaw, Mr.	P. & S.
Rickett, Mr. C.	J.
Rothschild, Mr. W.	J.
S.	
Samuel, Mr. J.	E.
*Savory, Sir J.	2.
Schwann, Mr.	C.
Shadwell, Mr. L.	L.
Shaw, Mr. C. E.	5.
Smith, Mr. Abel	3.
Smith, Mr. S.	2.
Souttar, Mr.	5.
Stevenson, Mr. F. S.	6.
Strachey, Mr.	A.
T.	
Thomas, Mr. D. A.	L.
W.	
Warr, Mr.	G.
Wedderburn, Sir W.	3.
Weir, Mr.	K.
Welby, Colonel	B.
Wilson, Mr. F. W.	E.
Wilson, Mr. H. J.	P. & S.
Wilson, Mr. J. W.	P. & S.

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INDEX of MEMBERS' NAMES nominated partly by the HOUSE and partly by the COMMITTEE of SELECTION, on BILLS referred to SELECT COMMITTEES.

Members whose names are marked with an asterisk (*) were appointed to Committees, but did not serve.

	PAGE
A.	
Ashton, Mr.	liv
B.	
Baldwin, Mr.	lv
Banbury, Mr.	lv
Bond, Mr.	llv
Boscawen, Mr. Griffith	lv
Bullard, Sir Harry	liv
C.	
Cawley, Mr.	lv
Channing, Mr.	lv
Chaplin, Mr.	liv
Cripps, Mr.	liv
F.	
Fenwick, Mr.	lv
Firbank, Mr.	liv
Fitzgerald, Sir R. Penrose	liv
*Fitzmaurice, Lord E.	lv
G.	
*Gull, Sir C.	liv
H.	
Hoare, Mr. Brodie	lv
Holland, Mr. W. H.	lv
*Hudson, Mr.	liv
*Hutton, Mr. A.	liv
K.	
*Keatley, Mr.	lv
*Kimber, Mr.	liv
Knowles, Mr. Lees	liv
L.	
Lawrence, Mr. W. F.	liv
M.	
McKenna, Mr.	lv
Monckton, Mr.	lv
Morris, Mr. S.	liv
N.	
Northcote, Sir S.	liv
O.	
O'Brien, Mr. G. F. X.	liv
O'Brien, Mr. P.	liv
Oldroyd, Mr.	liv, lv
P.	
Pretyman, Captain	lv
S.	
Stanley, Lord	lv
*Stuart, Mr. J.	liv
T.	
Tomlinson, Mr.	lv

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PRIVATE BILLS.

RETURN of the Number of ACTS passed in the Session of 1899, classed according to the following Subjects:—Railways; Tramways; Tramroads; Subways; Canals and Navigations; Roads and Bridges; Water; Gas; Gas and Water; Improvement; Police and Sanitary Regulations; Corporations, &c. (not relating to Police and Sanitary Regulations); Ports, Piers, Harbours, and Docks; Churches, Chapels, and Burying Grounds; Markets and Fairs; Gaols and other County Buildings; Inclosure and Drainage; Estate; Divorce; and Miscellaneous.

NUMBER OF PRIVATE BILLS WHICH HAVE RECEIVED THE ROYAL ASSENT.

Railways	52
Tramways	13
Tramroad	1
Subway	1
Canals and Navigations	3
Roads and Bridges	2
Water	27
Gas	23
Gas and Water	6
Lighting and Improvement	4
Police and Sanitary Regulations	9
Corporations, &c. (*not relating to Police and Sanitary Regulations, or to Lighting and Improvement Schemes*)	8
Ports, Piers, Harbours, and Docks	20
Churches, Chapels, and Burying Grounds	3
Gaols and other County Buildings	1
Markets	2
Estate	1
Divorce	2
Miscellaneous	37
TOTAL	215

Private Bill Office,
9 August 1899.

John H. Somerset,
Principal Clerk.

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OPPOSED PRIVATE BILLS.

RETURN of all the PRIVATE BILLS and Bills for confirming Provisional Orders which, in the Session of 1899, have been reported on by COMMITTEES on Opposed Private Bills; together with the Names of the Selected Members who served on each Committee; the First and also the Last Day of the Sitting of each Committee; the Number of Days on which each Committee sat; the Number of Days on which each Selected Member has Served; the Bills the Preambles of which were reported to have been Proved; the Bills the Preambles of which were reported to have been Not Proved; and in the case of Bills for confirming Provisional Orders, whether the Provisional Orders ought or ought not to be confirmed; and the Bills Withdrawn, or not proceeded with by the Parties.

Note.—(*a.*) The Groups to which a Number is affixed, consist of Railway and Canal Bills; those to which a Letter is affixed, consist of Private Bills other than Railway and Canal Bills.

(*b.*) Particulars about the following Select Committees which deal exclusively with Private Business are to be found in the Select Committee's Return; Court of Referees, Standing Orders, Divorce Bills, and in the same Return particulars about the Committee of Selection, which is chiefly occupied with Private Business.

NAMES OF MEMBERS Selected.	Number of Days on which each Member attended.	Number of Days on which each Committee sat.	First Sitting of the Committee.	Last Sitting of the Committee.	NAMES OF BILLS.	Days occupied by each Bill in Committee.	Preamble Proved.	Preamble *not* Proved.	Withdrawn.	REMARKS.
GROUP 1.										
Mr. Hobhouse (Chairman) -	4	4	14 Mar.	20 Mar.	1. Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway (Various Powers).	½	14 Mar.			
Mr. Lough (discharged, 8th March).	0				2. Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway (New Railways).	1½	17 Mar.			
Mr. Carlisle - - - - -	4				3. Leicester, Groby, and Braddgate Park Railway.	2	...	20 Mar.		
Mr. Hedderwick - - - -	3									
Mr. Bayley (added, 8th March, discharged, 10th March).	0									
Mr. E. J. C. Morton (added, 10th March; discharged, 14th March).	0									
Mr. Carew (added, 14th March).	4									

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GROUP 2.										
Mr. Seale Hayne - -	16	16	25 Apr.	16 May	1. Aire and Calder Navigation	3½	26 Apr.			
Sir Joseph Savory (discharged 21st April).	0				2. Great Central Railway -	½	27 Apr.			
Mr. Ashton (discharged, 9th May).	10				3. Great Western and Great Central Railway Companies.	5½	8 May			
Mr. Raymond Green (discharged, 1st May).	4				4. London and North-Western Railway (Additional Powers).	1	9 May			
Lord Folkestone (added, 21st April; discharged, 9th May).	11				5. London and North Western Railway (New Railways).	5½	16 May			
Mr. S. Smith (added, 9th May).	6									
Mr. Alexander Cross (added, 9th May).	6									
Lord Dalkeith (added, 1st May).	12									
GROUP 3.										
Marquis of Lorne (Chairman).	6	6	16 Mar.	23 Mar.	1. Brynmawr and Western Valleys Railway.	2½	21 Mar.			
Sir William Wedderburn -	6				2. Great Western Railway -	1	23 Mar.			
Mr. Goddard - - -	6				3. Midland Railway - -	1½	23 Mar.			
Mr. Abel Smith (discharged, 21st March).	3				4. Midland and South Western Junction Railway.	1	23 Mar.			
Lord Balcarres (added, 21st March).	3									
GROUP 4.										
Mr. Samuel Hoare (Chairman).	10	10	24 Apr.	9 May	1. South-Eastern Railway Bill	4	27 Apr.			
Sir John Kinloch - -	9				2. London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway (Various Powers) Bill.	6	9 May			
Mr. Newdigate - - -	10									
Mr. Harwood - - -	9									

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Names of Members Selected.	Number of Days on which each Member attended.	Number of Days on which each Committee sat.	First Sitting of the Committee.	Last Sitting of the Committee.	Names of Bills.	Days occupied by each Bill in Committee.	Preamble Proved.	Preamble *not* Proved.	Withdrawn.	Remarks.
Group 5.										
Mr. Jeffreys (Chairman)	11	11	20 Mar.	27 Apr.	1. Charing Cross, Euston, and Hampstead Railway.	2	20 Mar.			
Mr. Soutter	9				2. North-West London Railway.	1	13 Apr.			
Mr. Bathurst	11				3. Baker Street and Waterloo Railway.	8	25 Apr.			
Mr. C. E. Shaw (Stafford)	10				4. Brompton and Piccadilly Circus Railway.	2	26 Apr.			
Group 6.										
Sir Lewis McIver (Chairman).	2	2	20 Apr.	24 Apr.	1. Wallasey Tramways and Improvements [H.L.]	1½	24 Apr.			
Mr. F. S. Stevenson	2				2. Loughborough and Sheepshed Railway [H.L.]	1	24 Apr.			
Mr. C. J. Murray	2									
Mr. Billson	2									
Group 7.										
Sir U. Kay-Shuttleworth (Chairman) (discharged, 9th May).	4	11	2 May	14 June	1. Fishguard and Rosslare Railways and Harbours.	1	2 May			
Lord Alwyne Compton (discharged, 9th May).	4				2. Kingscourt, Keady, and Armagh Railway.	3	...	9 May		
Mr. James Bailey (discharged, 9th May).	4				3. Bradford Tramways and Improvement.	7	14 June			
Mr. Mendl (discharged, 9th May).	4									

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Mr. Molloy (added as Chairman, 18th May).	7								
Mr. Allison (added, 10th May).	7								
Mr. Arnold (added, 10th May).	7								
Mr. Morrell (added, 10th May).	7								
GROUP 8.									
Mr. A. de Tatton Egerton (Chairman).	10	10	6 June	27 June	1. Harrow and Uxbridge Railway.	4	8 June		
Mr. Charles Morley - -	10				2. Greenock and Port Glasgow Tramways [H.L.]	6	22 June		
Sir Elliott Lees - - -	10				3. Glasgow Corporation (Tramways, &c.) [H.L.]	2	23 June		
Mr. Horniman - - -	10				4. West Metropolitan Railway	2	27 June		
GROUP 9.									
Sir John Kennaway (Chairman), (discharged, 18th July).	7	8	6 July	18 July	1. Bexhill and St. Leonards Tramroads [H.L.]	3	...	10 July	
Mr. Lloyd Morgan (discharged, 4th July).	0				2. North Eastern and Hull and Barnsley Railways (Joint Dock) [H.L.]	4½	13 July		
Captain Phillpotts (discharged, 11th July).	3				3. Great Eastern Railway (General Powers) Bill.	½	18 July		
Mr. Hogan - - - -	8								
Mr. Batty Langley (added, 4th July).									
Sir M. M. Bhownaggree (added, 11th July).	5								
Mr. Seale Hayne (Chairman), vice Sir John Kennaway (added, 18th July).	1								

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Names of Members Selected.	Number of Days on which each Member attended.	Number of Days on which each Committee sat.	First Sitting of the Committee.	Last Sitting of the Committee.	Names of Bills.	Days occupied by each Bill in Committee.	Preamble Proved.	Preamble *not* Proved.	Withdrawn.	Remarks.
Group A.										
Mr. Baldwin (Chairman) -	9	9	14 Mar.	24 Mar.	1. Otley Urban District Council Water.	2	...	15 Mar.		
Mr. Strachey - - -	8				2. New Mills Urban District Council Water.	2	...	16 Mar.		
Mr. Hazell - - - -	9				3. Stockport Corporation Water.	3	20 Mar.			
Mr. Evelyn Cecil - -	8				4. Stockport District Water -	1	21 Mar.			
					5. Wetherby District Water -	1	21 Mar.			
					6. Horsforth Urban District Water.	3	24 Mar.			
					7. Horsforth Water - -	2	...	24 Mar.		
					8. Burley-in-Wharfedale Urban District Council Water.	1	24 Mar.			
Group B.										
Sir John Brunner (Chairman).	25	25	18 Apr.	16 June	1. Brigg Urban District Gas -	1	18 Apr.			
Mr. W. Jones - - -	25				2. Scunthorpe Urban District Gas.	2	20 Apr.			
Colonel Welby - - -	25				3. Derby Corporation Water -	22	9 June	...	...	These three Bills were consolidated into the Derwent Valley Water Bill, the preamble of which was proved on June 14th.
Sir George Fardell - -	25				4. Leicester Corporation Water					
					5. Sheffield Corporation (Derwent Valley) Water).					

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Group C.										
Mr. Schwann	9	9	14 Mar.	24 Mar.	1. Godalming Corporation Bill	2	21 Mar.			
Colonel Long	9				2. Ilford Urban District Council Gas.	8	23 Mar.	...	...	Short title amended to Ilford Urban District Council Rates Bill.
Mr. Duckworth	9									
Sir Cameron Gull	8									
Mr. Bonham-Carter (Referee).	9				3. Ilford Gas	8	23 Mar.			
					4. Metropolitan Police Provisional Order Confirmation.	1	24 Mar.			
Group D.										
Sir Joseph Pease (Chairman)	7	7	25 Apr.	4 May	1. East London Water	5	1 May	...	...	Consolidated into East London Water Bill.
Mr. Arnold-Foster	7				2. East London Water (Temporary Supply).					
Mr. Nussey	7				3. Metropolitan Water Companies.	...	...	...	25 Apr.	
Capt. Bagot	7				4. West Middlesex Water	2	28 Apr.			
					5. London Water (Finance)	...	...	...	27 Apr.	
					6. Milton Creek Conservancy	2	4 May			
Group E.										
Sir William Coddington (Chairman).	12	12	16 Mar.	14 Apr.	1. St. James and Pall Mall Electric Light.	3½	17 Mar.			
Mr. Price (discharged, 21st March).	4				2. Central Electric Supply	1½	21 Mar.			
Mr. Cubitt (discharged, 21st March).	4				3. County of London and Brush Provincial Electric Lighting.	5½	–	12 Apr.		
Mr. Clough (discharged, 21st March).	4				4. Gas Light and Coke Company.	2	14 Apr.			
Mr. Colville (added, 21st March).	8									
Mr. Cruddas (added, 21st March; discharged, 12th April).	6									
Mr. F. W. Wilson) added, 21st March; discharged, 12th April).	6									
Mr. J. Samuel (added, 12th April).	2									
Mr. W. H. Myers (added, 12th April).	2									

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Names of Members Selected.	Number of Days on which each Member attended.	Number of Days on which each Committee sat.	First Sitting of the Committee.	Last Sitting of the Committee.	Names of Bills.	Days occupied by each Bill in Committee.	Preamble Proved.	Preamble *not* Proved.	Withdrawn.	Remarks.
Group F.										
Mr. A. H. Brown (Chairman).	14	14	20 Apr.	20 June	1. Great Northern and Strand Railway Bill.	2	21 Apr.			
Mr. Leuty (discharged, 8th May).	8				2. London Improvements Bill -	9	8 May			
Mr. A. K. Loyd (discharged, 20th April; added, 4th May).	2				3. London County Council (General Powers) Bill.	2	9 May			
Sir T. L. Gibson-Carmichael	14				4. London County Council (General Powers) Re-committed Bill.	1	Reported 20 June.			
Lord Henry Bentinck (added, 20th April; discharged, 6th May).	11									
Mr. M'Ghee (added, 4th May).	3									
Group G.										
Sir James Kitson (Chairman).	17	17	13 Apr.	5 May	1. Edinburgh Corporation -	8	20 Apr.			
Commander Bethell - -	16				2. Highland Water Power -	9	–	2 May		
Mr. Warr - - - -	16									
Mr. Maddison - - -	17				3. Belfast Water - - -	3	4 May			
Mr. Bonham-Carter (Referee).	12									
Group H.										
Mr. Johnson-Ferguson (Chairman).	17	17	18 Apr.	15 May	1. Dublin Corporation - -	17	9 May			
Mr. Fison - - - -	15									
Mr. Garfit - - - -	17									
Mr. Caldwell - - -	17									

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Group J.										
Sir Henry Fletcher (Chairman).	18	18	9 May	19 June	1. Belfast Corporation - -	4	11 May			
Sir Leonard Lyell - -	18				2. Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 3) Bermondsey.	2	16 May			
Mr. R. F. Cavendish (discharged, 16th May).	8				3. Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 2) Ystradyfodwg Maerdy).	3	18 May - (a)	18 May - (b)	–	(a) Orders other than Ystradyfodwg (Maerdy) Order. (b) Ystradyfodwg (Maerdy) Order.
Mr. Compton Rickett (added, 9th June).	12				4. Walker and Wallsend Union Gas (Electric Lighting).	4	9 June			
Mr. Walter Rothschild (added, 16th May).	10				5. Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 7) (Walker).	4	9 June			
Sir W. B. Gurdon (added, 9th June).	6				6. Airdrie and Coatbridge Water [H.L.]	5	15 June			
					7. Bristol Gas [H.L.]	3	19 June			
Group K.										
Colonel Gunter - - -	19	19	13 June	10 July	1. Worcestershire County Council.	4	16 June			
Mr. Oldroyd (discharged, 20th June).	6				2. Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 13).	4	–	16 June		
Mr. Crombie (discharged, 10th July).	18				3. Pier and Harbour Provisional Order (No. 2).	2	20 June			
Mr. Pym (discharged, 12th June).	0				4. Queenstone Water Bill -	2	22 June			
Col. Pryce-Jones (added, 15th June; discharged, 19th June).	4				5. Southampton Corporation [H.L.] Bill.	5	28 June			
Sir J. Stirling Maxwell (added, 19th June).	15				6. Electric Lighting Provisional Order (No. 20) Confirmation Bill.	5	7 July			
Mr. Owen Edwards (added, 23rd June; discharged, 10th July).	9				7. Sunderland Corporation [H.L.] Bill.	1	10 July			
Mr. Hermon Hodge (added, 10th July).	1									
Mr. Weir (added, 10th July).	1									
Mr. Bonham-Carter (Referee).	19									

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Names of Members Selected.	Number of Days on which each Member attended.	Number of Days on which each Committee sat.	First Sitting of the Committee.	Last Sitting of the Committee.	Names of Bills.	Days occupied by each Bill in Committee.	Preamble Proved.	Preamble *not* Proved.	Withdrawn.	Remarks.
Group L.										
Sir William Houldsworth (Chairman).	16	16	25 June	14 July	1. Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 4).	1	21 June			
Mr. D. A. Thomas - -	15				2. Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 6).	1½	26 June			
Mr. Lucas Shadwell - -	16				3. Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 17).	½	26 June			
Mr. Wentworth Beaumont (discharged, 13th July).	12				4. Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 10) (Bradford Order).	3½	–	30 June		
Mr. Cuming Macdona (added, 13th July).	2				5. Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 10) (Ryde Order).	½	30 June			
					6. Oldham Corporation [H.L.]	1	3 July			
					7. Lea Bridge District Gas [H.L.]	5	13 July			
					8. Yeadon and Guiseley Gas [H.L.]	2	14 July			
Group M.										
Mr. Laurence Hardy (Chairman).	16	16	27 June	20 July	1. Renfrew Burgh and Harbour Extension [H.L.]	16	18 July		–	These were two competing Bills, so are returned as being both under consideration of the Committee on each day.
Mr. Vaughan Davies - -	16				2. Clyde Navigation [H.L.]	16	18 July			
Mr. Howard - - -	16									
Sir George Pilkington -	15									

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Select Committee on Police and Sanitary Regulations Bills:										
Sir Stafford Northcote (Chairman).	30	30	24 April	19 July	1. Manchester Corporation (General Powers).	2	9 May			
Dr. Fox - - - -	0				2. Bootle Corporation - -	2½	10 May			
Sir Henry Bemrose - -	1				3. Blackpool Improvement -	3½	6 June			
Mr. John Hutton (discharged, 21st April).	0				4. Stockport Corporation -	2½	18 May			On the 19th July the Committee made their Special Report to the House on the work of the Session.
Mr. Leuty - - - -	20				5. Darwen Corporation - -	2	2 June			
Mr. McKenna - - -	26				6. Leeds Corporation - -	2½	22 June			
Mr. Parkes (discharged, 21st April).	0				7. Warrington Corporation -	6	20 June			Committee made a Special Report.
Mr. Renshaw (discharged, 8th May).	0				8. Newcastle-upon-Tyne Tramways and Improvements.	3	29 June			
Mr. H. J. Wilson - -	25				9. Salford Corporation [H.L.] -	3	19 July			
Mr. Bill (added, 21st April)	26									
Mr. J. W. Wilson (added, 21st April).	17									
Mr. McKillop (added, 8th May).	15									

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Bills referred to Select Committees nominated partly by the House and partly by the Committee of Selection.

Names of Members Selected.	Number of Days on which each Member attended.	Number of Days on which each Committee sat.	First Sitting of the Committee.	Last Sitting of the Committee.	Names of Bills.	Days occupied by each Bill in Committee.	Preamble Proved.	Preamble not Proved.	Withdrawn.	Remarks.
Sir Robert Penrose Fitz-Gerald (Chairman).	28	28	7 June	25 July	1. Great Southern and Western, and Waterford, Limerick, and Western Railway Companies Amalgamation.	27	–	21 July	–	The Committee summoned four witnesses whose expenses amounted to 42*l.* 8*s.*
Mr. Firbank	27									
Mr. Samuel Morris	23									
Mr. G. F. X. O'Brien	26				2. Great Southern and Western Railway.	–	–	–	–	The Committee made a Special Report to the House (26th July) recommending that owing to the late period of the Session, the order for the committal of these two Bills be discharged, and the Bills withdrawn; which recommendation was given effect to by the House on 27th July.
Mr. Patrick O'Brien	28									
Mr. Ashton	26									
Mr. W. F. Lawrence	26									
Sir Harry Bullard (added, 6th June).	22									
Mr. Bond (added, 6th June)	27									
Sir Cameron Gull (discharged, 6th June).	0									
Mr. Kimber (discharged, 16th May).	0									
Mr. Hudson (added, 16th May; discharged, 6th June).	0				3. Waterford and Central Ireland Railway.					
Mr. Chaplin (Chairman)	2	2	17 Mar.	27 Mar.	Metropolitan Water Companies Bill.	–	27 Mar.			
Mr. Cripps	2									
Mr. James Stuart	0									
Mr. Alfred Hutton	0	–	–	–	. . . .	–	–	–	–	Added by the Committee of Selection.
Mr. Lees Knowles	1	–	–	–	. . . .	–	–	–	–	Added by the Committee of Selection.
Sir Stafford Northcote	1	–	–	–	. . . .	–	–	–	–	Added by the Committee of Selection.
Mr. Oldroyd	1	–	–	–	. . . .	–	–	–	–	Added by the Committee of Selection.

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Lord Stanley (Chairman) -	8	8	27 Mar.	25 Apr.	SOUTH-EASTERN AND LONDON, CHATHAM, AND DOVER RAILWAY COMPANIES BILL.	–	20 April			
Mr. Banbury - - -	8									
Mr. Griffith-Boscawen -	8									
Mr. Cawley (added, 14th April).	7									
Mr. Channing - - -	7									
Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice (discharged, 27th March).	0									
Mr. Kearley (added, 27th March; discharged, 14th April).	0									
Mr. Fenwick - - -	6	–	–	–	. . . .	–	–	–	–	Added by the Committee of Selection.
Mr. W. H. Holland - -	8	–	–	–	. . . .	–	–	–	–	Added by the Committee of Selection.
Mr. Monckton - - -	7	–	–	–	. . . .	–	–	–	–	Added by the Committee of Selection.
Captain Pretyman - -	8	–	–	–	. . . .	–	–	–	–	Added by the Committee of Selection.
Mr. Baldwin (Chairman) -	3	3	3 July	13 July	LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROVISIONAL ORDER (No. 15) BILL.	–	13 July			
Mr. McKenna - - -	2									
Mr. Tomlinson - - -	3									
Mr. Brodie Hoare - -	2	–		–	. . . .	–	–	–	–	Added by the Committee of Selection.
Mr. Oldroyd - - -	3	–		–	. . . .	–	–	–	–	Added by the Committee of Selection.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,
August 1899.

REGINALD DICKINSON,
Principal Clerk of Committees.

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UNOPPOSED PRIVATE BILLS, 1899.

RETURN of all PRIVATE BILLS which, in the Session of 1899, have been referred by the Committee of Selection, or by the General Committee on Railway and Canal Bills, to the CHAIRMAN of the COMMITTEE of WAYS and MEANS, together with the Names of the Members who Served on each Committee, the Number of Days on which each Committee sat, and the Number of Days on which each Member attended (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper, No. 0.278, of Session 1898).—

NAME OF BILL.	Number of Days on which each Committee sat.	NAMES OF MEMBERS.
Aberdeen Corporation (H.L.) - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Aberdeen Corporation Gas (H.L.) - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Aberdeen Harbour (H.L.) - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Aberdeen Joint Passenger Station (H.L.) -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
All Saints Church (Cardiff) (H.L.) - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Ayr Burgh - - - - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. C. L. Orr-Ewing. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Barry Railway - - - - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Barton-on-Sea Water (H.L.) - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Belfast and Northern Counties Railway -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Bexhill and Rotherfield Railway - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Birkenhead Corporation (H.L.) - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Birmingham Corporation - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Sir John Benjamin Stone. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Birmingham North Warwickshire, and Stratford-upon-Avon Railway (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Brighton Marine Palace and Pier (H.L.) -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.

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NAME OF BILL.	Number of Days on which each Committee sat.	NAMES OF MEMBERS.
Bristol Floods Prevention (H.L.) - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Brooke's Park (Londonderry) (H.L.) - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Broughty Ferry Gas and Paving Order (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Buenos Ayres and Pacific Railway Company (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Bury Corporation (H.L.) - - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Bury Corporation Water (H.L.) - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Caledonian Railway (General Powers) (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Cambridge University and Town Gas (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Cardiff Railway - - - - - -	1	Mr. Arthur O'Connor, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Central London Railway - - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Church Stretton Water (H.L.) - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
City and Brixton Railway - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Clay Cross Water - - - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Coalville Urban District Gas (H.L.) - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Cobham Gas (H.L.) - - - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Colonial and Foreign Banks Guarantee Fund.	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Cork Corporation (Finance) - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Cromer Protection (H.L.) - - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Crowborough District Gas - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Loder. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Crowborough District Water - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Loder. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.

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NAME OF BILL.	Number of Days on which each Committee sat.	NAMES OF MEMBERS.
Derby Corporation Tramways, &c. - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Dublin Corporation (Markets, &c.) - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Dublin Improvement (Bull Alley Area) -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Dumbarton Burgh (H.L.) - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Dundee Gas Street Improvements and Tramways (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Fishguard Water and Gas - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. General Laurie. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Friends Provident Institution (H.L.) - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Furness Railway (H.L.) - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Fylde Water Board (H.L.) - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Gainsborough Urban District Council (Gas) (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Gateshead and District Tramways - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Glasgow Corporation (Gas and Water) (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Glasgow District Subway (H.L.) - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Glasgow and South Western Railway (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Glastonbury Water (H.L.) - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Goole Urban District Council - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Great Grimsby Street Tramways (H.L.) -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Great Northern Railway (H.L.) - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Great Yarmouth Corporation (H.L.) - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Great Yarmouth Pier (H.L.) - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.

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NAME OF BILL.	Number of Days on which each Committee sat.	NAMES OF MEMBERS.
Great Yarmouth Water (H.L.) - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Grosvenor Chapel (London) (H.L.) - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Hampstead Church (Emmanuel, West End) (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Hastings and St. Leonards (Gas) (H.L.) -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Hastings Harbour (H.L.) - - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Herne Bay Water (H.L.) - - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Hull, Barnsley, and West Riding Junction Railway and Dock (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Humber Conservancy (H.L.) - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Infant Orphan Asylum (H.L.) - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Inverness Harbour (H.L.) - - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Ionian Bank - - - - - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Kensington and Notting Hill Electric Lighting.	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Kew Bridge (H.L.) - - - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Kirkcaldy Corporation and Tramways (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Lanarkshire (Middle Ward District) Water (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Leigh-on-Sea Urban District Council (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Leith Harbour and Docks - - -	2	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Lincoln and East Coast Railway and Dock	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Lisburn Town Commissioners - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Sir James Haslett. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.

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NAME OF BILL.	Number of Days on which each Committee sat.	NAMES OF MEMBERS.
Liverpool Overhead Railways (H.L.) -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
London and South-Western Railway (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh (Referee).
London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway (Pensions)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
London, Chatham, and Dover Railway -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
London County Council (Money) - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
London Hospital (H.L.) - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
London United Tramways - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
London, Walthamstow, and Epping Forest Railway (No. 2)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Loughborough Corporation (H.L.) - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Lowestoft Promenade Pier - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Lowestoft Water and Gas (H.L.) - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Manchester Corporation Tramways (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Mersey Docks and Harbour Board (Finance) (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Mersey Docks and Harbour Board (Pilotage) (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Mid-Kent Gas (H.L.) - - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Millwall Dock - - - - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Moss Side Urban District Council (Tramways) (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Norfolk Estuary (H.L.) - - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
North Pembrokeshire and Fishguard Railway	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
North Staffordshire Railway (H.L.) - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Northern Assurance Company (H.L.) -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.

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NAME OF BILL.	Number of Days on which each Committee sat.	NAMES OF MEMBERS.
Nottingham Corporation - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Nuneaton and Chilvers Coton Urban District Council Water	1	Mr. Arthur O'Connor, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
North Eastern Railway (H.L.) - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Owen's College, Manchester (H.L.) - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Oystermouth Railway or Tramroad (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Paisley and Barrhead District Railway (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Perth Water Police and Gas (H.L.) - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Port Talbot Railway and Docks (H.L.) -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Portsmouth Corporation (H.L.) - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Queen's Ferry Bridge (H.L.) - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Redditch Gas - - - - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Rhondda Urban District Council - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Rochdale Canal (H.L.) - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Rushden and Higham Ferrers District Gas (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
St. Alban's (Gas) - - - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
St. David's Water and Gas - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. General Laurie. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
St. Neot's Water (H.L.) - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Sheffield Corporation Markets - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Shirebrook and District Gas - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Thomas Bayley. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Shotley Bridge and Consett District Gas	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Skipton Urban District Gas (H.L.) - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.

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NAME OF BILL.	Number of Days on which each Committee sat.	NAMES OF MEMBERS.
South Eastern and London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Companies (New Lines).	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
South Hants Water (H.L.) - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Southport and Lytham Tramroad (H.L.) -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
South Staffordshire Stipendiary Justice	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Sir Henry Fowler. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
South Staffordshire Tramways (H.L.) -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Stockton and Middlesbrough Water (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Stretford Gas (H.L.) - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Stretford Urban District Council (Tramways) (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Surrey Commercial Docks (H.L.) - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Taff Vale Railway - - - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Tenterden Railway - - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Totland Water (H.L.) - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Transvaal Mortgage, Loan, and Finance Company (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Uxbridge and Rickmansworth Railway -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Vale of Glamorgan Railway - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Wakefield Corporation (H.L.) - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Walton-on-Thames and Weybridge Gas (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
West Gloucestershire Water - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
West Highland Railway (H.L.) - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Weston-super-Mare, Clevedon, and Portishead Tramways Company (Light Railway Extensions) (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Weston-super-Mare Grand Pier (H.L.) -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.

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NAME OF BILL	Number of Days on which each Committee sat.	NAMES OF MEMBERS.
Whitehaven Corporation (H.L.) - -	2	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Wick and Pulteney Harbours (H.L.) -	2	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Wishaw Water (H.L.) - - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Withington Urban District Council (Tramways) (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Woking Water and Gas - - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Woodhouse and Conisbrough Railway (Abandonment).	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Wolverhampton Corporation (H.L.) - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Wolverhampton Tramways (H.L.) - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Workington Corporation (H.L.) - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
York Estate (H.L.) - - - - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.

PROVISIONAL ORDERS (1899).

NAME OF BILL.	Number of Days on which each Committee sat.	NAMES OF MEMBERS.
Burgh Police (Scotland) Provisional Order	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Education Department Provisional Orders Confirmation (Aberavon, etc.) (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Education Department Provisional Order Confirmation (Liverpool) (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Education Department Provisional Order Confirmation (London) (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Education Department Provisional Order Confirmation (Swansea) (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 1)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.

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NAME OF BILL.	Number of Days on which each Committee sat.	NAMES OF MEMBERS.
Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 4)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 5)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 6)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 8)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 9) (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 10) (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 11) (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 12) (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 13) (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 14) (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 15) (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 16)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 18)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Electric Lighting Provisional Orders (No. 19)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Gas and Water Orders Confirmation (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Gas Orders Confirmation (No. 1) (H.L.) -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Gas Orders Confirmation (No. 2) (H.L.) -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Housing of the Working Classes Provisional Order (Borrowstounness)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 1)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 2)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 3)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.

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NAME OF BILL.	Number of Days on which each Committee sat.	NAMES OF MEMBERS.
Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 5)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 7)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 8)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 9)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 11)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 12)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 14)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 15)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Orders (No. 1)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Orders (No. 2)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Attorney-General for Ireland. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Orders (No. 3)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther, Chairman. Mr. Attorney-General for Ireland. Mr. Chandos Leigh, Referee.
Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Orders (No. 4).	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther (Chairman). Mr. Parker Smith. Mr. Chandos Leigh (Referee).
Local Government Provisional Orders (Gas).	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther (Chairman). Mr. Chandos Leigh (Referee).
Local Government Provisional Order (Housing of the Working Classes).	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther (Chairman). Mr. Chandos Leigh (Referee).
Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Orders (Housing of the Working Classes (No. 2).	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther (Chairman). Mr. Chandos Leigh (Referee).
Local Government Provisional Orders (Poor Law).	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther (Chairman). Mr. Chandos Leigh (Referee).
Metropolitan Common Scheme (Harrow Weald) Provisional Order.	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther (Chairman). Mr. Chandos Leigh (Referee).
Military Lands Provisional Orders - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther (Chairman Mr. Wyndham. Mr. Chandos Leigh (Referee).
Pier and Harbour Provisional Orders (No. 1).	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther (Chairman Mr. Chandos Leigh (Referee)

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NAME OF BILL.	Number of Days on which each Committee sat.	NAMES OF MEMBERS.
Pilotage Provisional Orders - - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther (Chairman). Mr. Chandos Leigh (Referee).
St. Andrews Burgh Provisional Order (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther (Chairman). Mr. Chandos Leigh (Referee).
Tramways Orders Confirmation (No. 1) (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther (Chairman). Mr. Chandos Leigh (Referee).
Tramways Orders Confirmation No. 2) (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther (Chairman). Mr. Chandos Leigh (Referee).
Tramways Orders Confirmation (No. 3) (H.L.)	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther (Chairman). Mr. Chandos Leigh (Referee).
Water Orders Confirmation (H.L.) - -	1	Mr. J. W. Lowther (Chairman). Mr. Chandos Leigh (Referee).

UNOPPOSED PRIVATE BILLS.

SESSION 1899.

NAMES OF MEMBERS.	Number of Days on which each Member sat.
Mr. J. W. Lowther - - - - - - - - - - - - -	24
Mr. Arthur O'Connor - - - - - - - - - - - -	1
Mr. Chandos Leigh - - - - - - - - - - - - -	25
Mr. Parker Smith - - - - - - - - - - - - -	4
Mr. Attorney General for Ireland - - - - - - - - - -	1
Mr. Wyndham - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1
Sir Henry Fowler - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1
Sir John Benjamin Stone - - - - - - - - - - -	1
General Laurie - - - - - - - - - - - - -	2
Sir James Haslett - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1
Mr. Loder - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	2
Mr. Orr-Ewing - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1
Mr. Thomas Bayley - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1

Department of Chairman of Committee of Ways and Means, 2 August 1899. HORACE WEST.

Number of Bills referred to Chairman of Ways and Means by the Committee of Selection, or by the General Committee on Railway and Canal Bills and Provisional Order Bills - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 198

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GENERAL SUMMARY OF RETURNS RELATING TO PRIVATE BUSINESS FOR SESSION 1899.

(A.)—Number of Private Bills introduced by petition into the House of Commons	136
Number of Private Bills brought from the House of Lords to the House of Commons	113
Number of Private Estate Bills brought from the House of Lords	1
Number of Private Divorce Bills brought from the House of Lords	2
Number of Private Naturalization Bills brought from the House of Lords	—
Number of Private Provisional Order Confirmation Bills read the first time in the House of Commons	64
Number of Private Hybrid Bills	1
TOTAL	317

~~(B.)—Number of Private Bills~~	which have received the Royal Assent	215
" Provisional Order Bills		63
" Hybrid Bills		1
" Private Bills	passed in the House of Commons, and not passed in the House of Lords	3
" Provisional Order Bills		—
" Hybrid Bills		—
" Private Bills	which have been withdrawn or not proceeded with by the Parties	16
" Provisional Order Bills		1
" Hybrid Bills		—
" Private Bills	which have not passed Standing Orders Committee or have been rejected in the House	5
" Provisional Order Bills		—
" Hybrid Bills		—
" Private Bills	which have been rejected in Committee	10
" Provisional Order Bills		1
" Hybrid Bills		—
	TOTAL	*315

(C.)—Number of Private Bills	reported on by Committees on Opposed Bills or Hybrid Bill Committees	74
" Provisional Order Bills		13
" Hybrid Bills reported on by Committees nominated partly by the House and partly by the Committee of Selection		1
	TOTAL	88

Number of Private Bills	reported on by Committee on Unopposed Bills	145
" Provisional Order Bills		53
	TOTAL	198

* This discrepancy is in consequence of Bills being consolidated.

JOHN H. SOMERSET,
Principal Clerk, Private Bill Office.

9 *August* 1899.

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LIST OF PRIVATE BILLS AND PROCEEDINGS THEREUPON.

9TH AUGUST, 1899.

NOTE.—*The Bills marked thus * are Scotch Bills. The Bills marked thus † are Irish Bills.*

NAME.	Petition presented.	Bill read first time.	Day fixed for second reading.	Bill read second time.	Committee to which Bills are referred.	Bill reported.	Bill read third time.	Royal Assent.
*Aberdeen Corporation	Lords Bill	Mar. 24	Apr. 11	Apr. 11	Unopposed	June 9	June 22	July 13
*Aberdeen Harbour	Lords Bill	Mar. 20	Apr. 10	Apr. 10	Unopposed	Apr. 28	May 2	June 6
*Aberdeen Joint Passenger Station	Lords Bill	June 20	July 3	July 3	Unopposed	July 14	July 27	Aug. 9
*Airdrie and Coatbridge Water	Lords Bill	Mar. 27	Apr. 17	Apr. 17	Group J	June 15	June 29	July 13
Aire and Calder Navigation	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Apr. 10	Apr. 10	Group 2	Apr. 28	May 18	July 13
All Saints' Church (Cardiff)	Lords Bill	June 5	June 22	June 22	Unopposed	June 30	July 11	Aug. 1
*Arbroath Corporation Gas	Lords Bill	Apr. 20	May 1	May 1	Unopposed	June 2	June 6	June 20
*Ayr Burgh	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Unopposed	Apr. 28	May 11	Aug. 1
Baker Street and Waterloo Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 27	Mar. 27	Group 5	Apr. 27	May 16	Aug. 1
Barking Town Improvement	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 27	Withdrawn.	—	—	—	—
Barry Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 28	Feb. 28	Unopposed	Mar. 24	Apr. 13	July 13
Barton-on-Sea Water	Lords Bill	May 5	May 31	May 31	Unopposed	June 16	June 27	July 13
†Belfast and Northern Counties Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 28	Feb. 28	Unopposed	May 12	June 5	July 13
†Belfast Corporation	Feb. 13	Mar. 9	Mar. 15	Mar. 15	Group J	May 12	June 1	Aug. 9
†Belfast Water	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 28	Feb. 28	Group G	May 5	May 16	July 13
Bexhill and Rotherfield Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 21	Mar. 21	Unopposed	June 16	June 20	Aug. 9
Bexhill and St. Leonards Tramroads	Lords Bill	May 16	June 6	June 6	Group 9	July 10	Preamble	not proved.
Birkenhead Corporation	Lords Bill	Mar. 27	Apr. 17	Apr. 17	Unopposed	May 12	June 12	June 20
Birmingham Corporation	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Unopposed	May 5	May 16	Aug. 1
Birmingham, North Warwickshire, and Stratford-upon-Avon Railway	Lords Bill	June 5	July 5	July 5	Unopposed	July 25	Aug. 3	Aug. 9
Blackpool Improvement	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Police, &c.	June 6	June 15	Aug. 1
Bognor Urban District (Water)	Lords Bill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bootle Corporation	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 21	Feb. 21	Police, &c.	May 16	June 5	Aug. 9
Bradford Tramways and Improvement	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 14	Mar. 14	Group 7	June 15	June 20	Aug. 9
Brigg Urban District Gas	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Group B	Apr. 19	Apr. 28	June 20

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Brighton Marine Palace and Pier	Lords Bill	May 18	June 7	June 7	Unopposed	June 30	July 12	Aug. 1
Bristol Floods Prevention	Lords Bill	Mar. 24	Apr. 17	Apr. 17	Unopposed	Apr. 28	May 9	June 6
Bristol Gas	Lords Bill	Mar. 27	Apr. 17	Apr. 17	Group J	June 19	June 29	Aug. 1
Brompton and Piccadilly Circus Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 7	Mar. 7	Group 5	Apr. 27	June 13	Aug. 9
Brooke's Park (Londonderry)	Lords Bill	June 19	July 6	July 6	Unopposed	July 14	July 18	Aug. 1
Brynmawr and Western Valleys Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 24	Feb. 24	Group 3	Mar. 21	Apr. 10	July 13
Buenos Ayres and Pacific Railway Company	Lords Bill	June 15	June 26	June 26	Unopposed	July 14	July 21	Aug. 1
Burley-in-Wharfedale Urban District Water	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 28	Feb. 28	Group A	Mar. 24	Apr. 17	June 6
Bury Corporation	Lords Bill	May 4	May 15	May 15	Unopposed	June 23	July 3	July 13
Bury Corporation Water	Lords Bill	May 16	June 6	June 6	Unopposed	June 23	July 3	July 13
*Caledonian Railway (General Powers)	Lords Bill	June 20	July 3	July 3	Unopposed	July 14	July 27	Aug. 9
*Caledonian Railway (Grangemouth Connecting Lines)	Lords Bill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cambridge University and Town Gas	Lords Bill	Apr. 18	May 1	May 1	Unopposed	May 12	June 1	June 20
Cardiff Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 27	Feb. 27	Unopposed	Mar. 17	Apr. 11	July 13
Cathcarts' Divorce	Lords Bill	Mar. 16	Mar. 21	Mar. 21	Divorce	Apr. 13	Apr. 17	Apr. 27
Central Electric Supply	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 27	Feb. 27	Group E	Mar. 21	Apr. 11	July 13
Central London Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 27	Feb. 27	Unopposed	Mar. 28	Apr. 18	Aug. 1
Charing Cross, Euston, and Hampstead Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 27	Feb. 27	Group 5	Mar. 22	Apr. 24	Aug. 9
Church Stretton Water	Lords Bill	May 16	June 6	June 6	Unopposed	June 23	July 6	July 13
City and Brixton Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	May 16	May 16	Unopposed	June 2	June 12	Aug. 9
Clay Cross Water	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Unopposed	Mar. 24	Apr. 17	June 6
*Clyde Navigation	Lords Bill	May 5	June 21	June 21	Group M	July 20	Aug. 2	Aug. 9
Coalville Urban District Gas	Lords Bill	Mar. 27	Apr. 24	Apr. 24	Unopposed	May 9	May 18	June 6
*Coatbridge and Airdrie Light Railway	Feb. 13	Standing	Orders not	dispensed	with.	—	—	—
Cobham Gas	Lords Bill	June 5	June 14	June 14	Unopposed	June 23	July 4	July 13
Colonial and Foreign Banks Guarantee Fund	Lords Bill	May 18	June 6	June 6	Unopposed	June 16	June 26	July 13
† Cork Corporation (Finance)	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Unopposed	May 5	May 16	July 13
County of London and Brush Provincial Electric Lighting	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 27	Feb. 27	Group E	Apr. 12	Preamble	not proved.
Cromer Protection	Lords Bill	Mar. 24	Apr. 11	Apr. 11	Unopposed	July 14	July 31	Aug. 9
Crowborough District Gas	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Unopposed	Mar. 3	Mar. 14	June 6
Crowborough District Water	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 27	Feb. 27	Unopposed	Mar. 10	Mar. 21	June 20
Darwen Corporation	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 21	Feb. 21	Police, &c.	June 6	June 16	Aug. 9
Derby Corporation Tramways, &c.	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Unopposed	June 9	June 20	Aug. 1
Derby Corporation Water Consolidated— (*see* Derwent Valley Water)	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Group B	—	—	—
Derby Corporation Water								
Leicester Corporation Water								
Sheffield Corporation (Derwent Valley) Water Consolidated into Derwent Valley Water	—	—	—	—	—	June 16	June 23	Aug. 9

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NAME.	Petition presented.	Bill read first time.	Day fixed for second reading.	Bill read second time.	Committee to which Bills are referred.	Bill reported.	Bill read third time.	Royal Assent.
*Douglas and Sanquhar Railway	Lords Bill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
†Dublin Corporation	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 22	Feb. 22	Group H	May 15	June 16	—
†Dublin Corporation (Markets)	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 21	Feb. 21	Unopposed	May 5	May 16	Aug. 9
†Dublin Improvement (Bull Alley Area)	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 21	Feb. 21	Unopposed	Mar. 24	Apr. 13	June 6
*Dumbarton Burgh	Lords Bill	Apr. 20	May 1	May 1	Unopposed	June 2	June 12	June 20
*Dundee Gas, Tramways, and Extension (Changed to "Dundee Gas, Street Improvements, and Tramways")	Lords Bill	May 15	—	June 5	Unopposed	June 16	June 29	July 13
East London Water	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 21	Mar. 21	Group D	May 3	May 16	—
and East London Water (Temporary Supply) (Consolidated into "East London Water")	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 21	Mar. 21	Group D			
*Edinburgh Corporation	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Group G	Apr. 24	May 8	July 13
Fishguard and Rosslare Railways and Harbours	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 8	Mar. 8	Group 7	May 2	May 15	Aug. 1
Fishguard Water and Gas	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Unopposed	Mar. 10	Mar. 21	July 13
Friends' Provident Institution	Lords Bill	May 8	May 17	May 17	Unopposed	June 9	June 19	July 13
Furness Railway	Lords Bill	May 18	June 7	June 7	Unopposed	June 20	July 13	Aug. 1
Fylde Water Board	Lords Bill	June 30	July 11	July 11	Unopposed	July 20	Aug. 1	Aug. 9
Gainsborough Urban District Council (Gas)	Lords Bill	May 15	June 6	June 6	Unopposed	June 16	June 29	July 13
Gas Light and Coke Company	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 7	Mar. 7	Group E	Apr. 14	May 11	—
Gateshead and District Tramways	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 27	Feb. 27	Unopposed	Apr. 11	May 8	Aug. 9
General Power Distributing Company	Lords Bill Suspended (1898)	Feb. 13	Mar. 3	Second	Reading	put off for	six months.	—
*Glasgow and South Western Railway	Lords Bill	June 22	July 4	July 4	Unopposed	July 14	July 31	Aug. 9
*Glasgow Corporation (Gas and Water)	Lords Bill	May 12	May 31	May 31	Unopposed	June 16	July 13	Aug. 1
*Glasgow Corporation Telephones	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Aug. 2	Withdrawn.	—	—	—	—
*Glasgow Corporation (Tramways, &c.)	Lords Bill	May 12	May 31	May 31	Group 8	June 26	July 13	Aug. 1
*Glasgow District Subway	Lords Bill	Mar. 21	Apr. 10	Apr. 10	Unopposed	Apr. 28	May 8	June 6
*Glasgow, Motherwell, and Sanquhar Railway	Lords Bill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Glastonbury Water	Lords Bill	Apr. 18	May 1	May 1	Unopposed	May 12	June 1	June 6
Godalming Corporation Water	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Group C	Mar. 23	June 19	Aug. 1
Goole Urban District Council	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Unopposed	Mar. 24	May 8	Aug. 1
Great Central Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Apr. 10	Apr. 10	Group 2	Apr. 28	May 11	July 13

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Great Eastern Railway (Amendment of London Tilbury and Southend Railway Act, 1898)	Lords Bill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Eastern Railway (General Powers)	Lords Bill	June 26	July 10	July 10	Group 9	July 18	July 31	Aug. 9
Great Grimsby Street Tramways	Lords Bill	June 9	June 19	June 19	Unopposed	June 30	July 11	Aug. 1
Great Northern and Strand Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Group F	Apr. 21	May 2	Aug. 1
Great Northern Railway	Lords Bill	June 2	June 12	June 12	Unopposed	July 14	July 27	Aug. 1
†Great Southern and Western and Waterford, Limerick, and Western Railway Companies Amalgamation	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 14	Mar. 14	Select	July 21	Preamble	not proved.
†Great Southern and Western Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 14	Mar. 14	Select	Withdrawn.	—	—
Great Western and Great Central Ry. Companies	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Apr. 10	Apr. 10	Group 2	May 8	May 18	Aug. 1
Great Western Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 27	Feb. 27	Group 3	Mar. 23	Apr. 20	Aug. 1
Great Yarmouth Corporation	Lords Bill	Apr. 18	May 1	May 1	Unopposed	June 23	July 13	Aug. 1
Great Yarmouth Pier	Lords Bill	Mar. 27	Apr. 17	Apr. 17	Unopposed	May 5	July 7	July 13
Great Yarmouth Water	Lords Bill	May 15	June 6	June 6	Unopposed	July 20	July 31	Aug. 9
*Greenock and Port Glasgow Tramways	Lords Bill	Apr. 28	May 8	May 8	Group 8	June 26	July 17	Aug. 1
Grosvenor Chapel (London)	Lords Bill	June 5	June 14	June 14	Unopposed	June 23	June 27	July 13
Hampstead Church (Emmanuel, West End)	Lords Bill	May 15	June 6	June 6	Unopposed	June 23	June 27	July 13
Harbour and Dock Rates (Bristol, &c.)	Lords Bill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Harrow and Uxbridge Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 27	Feb. 27	Group 8	June 19	June 23	Aug. 9
Hastings and St. Leonard's Gas	Lords Bill	May 8	May 17	May 17	Unopposed	June 9	June 23	July 13
Hastings Corporation Tramways	Lords Bill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hastings Harbour	Lords Bill	June 27	July 10	July 10	Unopposed	July 20	July 31	Aug. 9
Herne Bay Water	Lords Bill	Mar. 27	Apr. 17	Apr. 17	Unopposed	Apr. 28	May 3	June 6
*Highland Water Power	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Group G	May 2	Preamble	not proved.
Horsforth Urban District Council (Water)	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 28	Feb. 28	Group A	Mar. 24	Apr. 13	June 6
Horsforth Water	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 6	Mar. 6	Group A	Mar. 24	Preamble	not proved.
Hull, Barnsley, and West Riding Junction Railway and Dock	Lords Bill	Apr. 25	May 8	May 8	Unopposed	May 18	June 5	June 20
Humber Conservancy	Lords Bill	May 16	June 6	June 6	Unopposed	July 14	July 24	Aug. 1
Ilford Gas	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 27	Feb. 27	Group C	Mar. 24	Apr. 20	June 20
Ilford Urban District Council Gas (Changed to "Ilford Urban District Council (Rates)")	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Group C	Mar. 23	Apr. 17	June 6
Imperial Markets and Stores	Lords Bill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infant Orphan Asylum	Lords Bill	May 8	May 17	May 17	Unopposed	June 9	June 13	June 20
*Inverness Harbour	Lords Bill	Apr. 18	May 1	May 1	Unopposed	June 16	June 30	July 13
Ionian Bank	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	June 13	June 13	Unopposed	June 20	June 23	July 13
Jones' Divorce	Lords Bill	June 2	June 9	June 9	Divorce	June 16	June 20	July 13

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NAME.	Petition presented.	Bill read first time.	Day fixed for second reading.	Bill read second time.	Committee to which Bills are referred.	Bill reported.	Bill read third time.	Royal Assent.
Kensington and Notting Hill Electric Lighting	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 27	Mar. 27	Unopposed	Apr. 28	May 11	July 13
Kew Bridge	Lords Bill	Apr. 27	May 8	May 8	Unopposed	June 2	June 6	June 20
†Kingscourt, Keady, and Armagh Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Group 7	May 9	Preamble	not proved.
Kirkcaldy Corporation and Tramways	Lords Bill	Apr. 24	May 5	May 5	Unopposed	June 30	July 13	Aug. 1
Knott End Railway	Lords Bill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Lanarkshire (Middle Ward District) Water	Lords Bill	Mar. 24	Apr. 17	Apr. 17	Unopposed	June 16	June 27	July 13
Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway (New Railways)	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 1	Mar. 1	Group 1	Mar. 17	Mar. 28	July 13
Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway (Various Powers)	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 1	Mar. 1	Group 1	Mar. 15	Mar. 28	July 13
Lancashire Electric Power	Feb. 13	Standing	Orders not	dispensed	with.	—	—	—
Lea Bridge District Gas	Lords Bill	Mar. 27	Apr. 17	Apr. 17	Group L	July 13	July 24	Aug. 1
Leeds Corporation	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Police, &c.	June 22	June 26	Aug. 9
Leicester Corporation Water Consolidated—(see Derwent Valley Water)	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Group B	—	—	—
Leicester, Groby, and Bradgate Park Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Group 1	Mar. 20	Preamble	not proved.
Leicestershire and Warwickshire Electric Supply	Feb. 13	Standing	Orders not	dispensed	with.	—	—	—
Leigh-on-Sea Urban District Council	Lords Bill	May 15	June 6	June 6	Unopposed	July 20	July 27	Aug. 9
*Leith Harbour and Docks	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Unopposed	May 9	May 19	Aug. 1
Lincoln and East Coast Railway and Dock	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 27	Feb. 27	Unopposed	May 12	May 18	Aug. 1
†Lisburn Town Commissioners	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Unopposed	Apr. 21	May 5	July 13
Liverpool Overhead Railway	Lords Bill	May 12	May 31	May 31	Unopposed	June 16	July 6	Aug. 1
Llanelly Harbour and Pontardulais Railway	Lords Bill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
London and North Western Railway (Additional Powers)	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Apr. 10	Apr. 10	Group 2	May 9	May 18	Aug. 9
London and North Western Railway (New Railways)	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Apr. 10	Apr. 10	Group 2	May 16	June 6	Aug. 1
London and South Western Railway	Lords Bill	July 7	July 17	July 17	Unopposed	July 25	Aug. 3	Aug. 9
London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway (Pensions)	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 27	Feb. 27	Unopposed	Apr. 21	May 2	July 13
London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway (Various Powers)	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 15	Mar. 15	Group 4	May 9	May 18	Aug. 1
London, Chatham, and Dover Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 3	Mar. 3	Unopposed	May 5	May 18	July 13
London County Council (General Powers)	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 9	Mar. 9	Group F re-com.	May 9 June 26	June 26	Aug. 9
London County Council (Money)	Apr. 14	Apr. 17	Apr. 26	Apr. 26	Unopposed	June 9	June 20	Aug. 9

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†Londonderry and Lough Swilly Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Withdrawn	—	—	—	—	—
London Hospital	Lords Bill	May 12	May 31	May 31	Unopposed	June 9	June 13	June 20
London Improvements	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 28	Feb. 28	Group F	May 8	June 12	Aug. 9
London United Tramways	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Apr. 10	Apr. 10	Unopposed	June 23	June 26	Aug. 1
London, Walthamstow, and Epping Forest Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Withdrawn	—	—	—	—	—
London, Walthamstow, and Epping Forest Railway (No. 2)	Apr. 28	May 4	May 15	May 15	Unopposed	June 20	June 23	Aug. 9
London Water (Finance)	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Apr. 27	Withdrawn	—	—	—	—
London Water (Purchase)	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	June 1	Withdrawn	—	—	—	—
London Water (Welsh Reservoirs and Works)	Feb. 13	Mar. 13	Withdrawn	—	—	—	—	—
Loughborough and Sheepshed Railway	Lords Bill	Mar. 27	Apr. 17	Apr. 17	Group 6	Apr. 24	May 5	June 6
Loughborough Corporation	Lords Bill	May 18	June 9	June 9	Unopposed	July 14	July 25	Aug. 1
Loughborough Gas	Lords Bill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lowestoft Promenade Pier	Apr. 11	Apr. 17	Apr. 25	Apr. 25	Unopposed	June 9	June 19	Aug. 1
Lowestoft Water and Gas	Lords Bill	June 8	June 19	June 19	Unopposed	June 30	July 13	Aug. 1
Manchester Corporation (General Powers)	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 21	Feb. 21	Police, &c.	May 9	May 18	Aug. 1
Manchester Corporation Tramways	Lords Bill	May 12	July 3	July 3	Unopposed	July 20	Aug. 3	Aug. 9
Maryport Harbour	Lords Bill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Menstone Water	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 23	Mar. 23	Group K	June 22	June 26	Aug. 1
Mersey Docks and Harbour Board (Finance)	Lords Bill	May 16	June 6	June 6	Unopposed	July 14	July 25	Aug. 1
Mersey Docks and Harbour Board (Pilotage)	Lords Bill	May 16	June 19	June 19	Unopposed	July 5	July 17	Aug. 1
Metropolitan Water Companies	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 21	Mar. 21	Group D	Withdrawn	—	—
Mid-Kent Gas	Lords Bill	May 2	May 31	May 31	Unopposed	June 9	June 19	July 13
Midland and South Western Junction Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	—	Feb. 28	Group 3	Mar. 23	May 1	Aug. 1
Midland and South Western Junction Railway (Northern Section)	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 27	Feb. 27	Group 3	Withdrawn	—	—
Midland Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 28	Feb. 28	Group 3	Mar. 23	Apr. 20	July 13
Milford Docks	Lords Bill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Millwall Dock	Apr. 28	May 3	June 19	June 19	Unopposed	June 26	June 30	Aug. 1
Milton Creek Conservancy	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Group D	May 4	May 16	Aug. 1
Moss Side Urban District Council (Tramways)	Lords Bill	June 5	June 14	June 14	Unopposed	July 20	July 28	Aug. 9
*Muirkirk, Mauchline, and Dalmellington Railway	Lords Bill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
National Telephone Company (No. 1)	Feb. 16	Mar. 9	Withdrawn.	—	—	—	—	—
National Telephone Company (No. 2)	Feb. 16	Mar. 9	Withdrawn.	—	—	—	—	—
Nene Valley Water	Lords Bill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Newcastle-upon-Tyne Tramways and Improvement	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 23	Feb. 23	Police, &c.	June 29	July 3	Aug. 9
Newhaven and Seaford Water Board	Lords Bill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
New Mills Urban District Council (Water)	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Group A	Mar. 16	Preamble	not proved
Norfolk Estuary	Lords Bill	Apr. 27	May 8	May 8	Unopposed	May 18	June 2	June 20

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NAME.	Petition presented.	Bill read first time.	Day fixed for second reading.	Bill read second time.	Committee to which Bills are referred.	Bill reported.	Bill read third time.	Royal Assent.
North Eastern and Hull and Barnsley Railways (Joint Dock)	Lords Bill	June 8	June 19	June 19	Group 9	July 18	Aug. 2	Aug. 9
North Eastern Railway	Lords Bill	June 8	June 19	June 19	Unopposed	July 20	July 31	Aug. 9
Northern Assurance Company	Lords Bill	Mar. 27	Apr. 17	Apr. 17	Unopposed	Apr. 28	May 15	June 6
North Pembrokeshire and Fishguard Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 27	Feb. 27	Unopposed	May 5	May 16	June 20
North Staffordshire Railway	Lords Bill	June 26	July 5	July 5	Unopposed	July 25	July 31	Aug. 9
North West London Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Group 5	Apr. 13	Apr. 25	Aug. 9
Nottingham Corporation	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Unopposed	Mar. 24	Apr. 13	July 13
Nuneaton and Chilvers Coton Urban District Council Water	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Unopposed	Mar. 17	Apr. 10	June 6
Oldham Corporation	Lords Bill	May 12	May 31	May 31	Group L	July 3	July 31	Aug. 9
Otley Urban District Council Water	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Group A	Mar. 15	Preamble	not proved
Owens College, Manchester	Lords Bill	June 22	July 3	July 3	Unopposed	July 14	July 19	Aug. 1
Oystermouth Railway or Tramroad	Lords Bill	Mar. 23	June 27	June 27	Unopposed	July 20	July 31	Aug. 9
*Paisley and Barhead District Railway	Lords Bill	May 18	June 7	June 7	Unopposed	June 30	Aug. 3	Aug. 9
*Perth Water, Police, and Gas	Lords Bill	Mar. 27	Apr. 17	Apr. 17	Unopposed	Apr. 28	May 11	June 6
Port Talbot Railway and Docks	Lords Bill	May 18	June 6	June 6	Unopposed	July 14	July 25	Aug. 1
Portsmouth Corporation	Lords Bill	July 3	July 18	July 18	Unopposed	July 28	Aug. 4	Aug. 9
Queen's Ferry Bridge	Lords Bill	Mar. 27	Apr. 17	Apr. 17	Unopposed	Apr. 28	June 1	June 6
Rawtenstall Corporation Water	Lords Bill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Redditch Gas	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 13	Mar. 13.	Unopposed	Apr. 28	May 12	Aug. 1
*Renfrew Burgh and Harbour Extension	Lords Bill	May 8	May 17	May 17	Group M	July 20	July 28	Aug. 9
Rhondda Urban District Council	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Unopposed	Mar. 24	Apr. 13	July 13
Rochdale Canal	Lords Bill	July 7	July 18	July 18	Unopposed	July 25	Aug. 3	Aug. 9
Rushden and Higham Ferrers District Gas	Lords Bill	Mar. 21	Apr. 10	Apr. 10	Unopposed	Apr. 21	Apr. 25	June 6
St. Alban's Gas	Lords Bill	Apr. 28	May 9	May 9	Unopposed	May 18	June 5	June 20
St. David's Water and Gas	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Unopposed	Mar. 3	Mar. 14	June 6
St. James's and Pall Mall Electric Light	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 27	Feb. 27	Group E	Mar. 21	Apr. 11	July 13
St. Marylebone Vestry Electric Lighting	Mar. 6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Neots Water	Lords Bill	May 16	June 19	June 19	Unopposed	June 26	July 6	July 13
Salford Corporation	Lords Bill	May 18	June 6	June 6	Police, &c.	July 20	Aug. 2	Aug. 9
Scunthorpe Urban District Gas and Water	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Group B	Apr. 20	May 5	July 13

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Sheffield Corporation (Derwent Valley) Water Consolidated—(*see* Derwent Valley Water)	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Group B	—	—	—
Sheffield Corporation Markets	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Unopposed	May 18	June 12	Aug. 1
Shirebrook and District Gas	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Unopposed	Apr. 28	May 12	July 13
Shotley Bridge and Consett District Gas	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 27	Feb. 27	Unopposed	Apr. 21	May 2	July 13
Skipton Gas	Lords Bill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Skipton Urban District Gas	Lords Bill	May 4	May 15	May 15	Unopposed	June 9	June 19	July 13
Southampton Corporation Water	Lords Bill	May 4	May 15	May 15	Group K	June 28	Preamble	not proved.
South Eastern and London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Companies	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 14	Mar. 14	Select	Apr. 25	May 11	Aug. 1
South Eastern and London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Companies (New Lines)	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 14	Mar. 14	Unopposed	May 12	June 2	Aug. 1
South Eastern Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 7	Mar. 7	Group 4	Apr. 27	May 10	July 13
South Essex Water	Lords Bill		—	—	—	—	—	—
South Hants Water	Lords Bill	May 8	May 31	May 31	Unopposed	July 6	July 18	Aug. 1
South Lancashire and Cheshire Electricity Company	Feb. 13	Standing	Orders not	dispensed	with.	—	—	—
Southport and Lytham Tramroad	Lords Bill	July 20	—	July 28	Unopposed	Aug. 1	Aug. 3	Aug. 9
Southport Tramways	Lords Bill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
South Staffordshire Stipendiary Justice	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Unopposed	May 8	May 31	July 13
South Staffordshire Tramways	Lords Bill	June 20	July 3	July 3	Unopposed	July 25	July 31	Aug. 9
Stockport Corporation	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 21	Feb. 21	Police, &c.	June 1	June 12	Aug. 1
Stockport Corporation Water	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Group A	Mar. 21	Apr. 10	Aug. 1
Stockport District Water	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 6	Mar. 6	Group A	Mar. 21	Mar. 27	—
Stockton and Middlesbrough Water	Lords Bill	May 12	May 31	May 31	Unopposed	June 9	June 13	June 20
Stretford Gas	Lords Bill	May 18	June 6	June 6	Unopposed	June 23	July 4	July 13
Stretford Urban District Council (Tramways)	Lords Bill	June 5	June 14	June 14	Unopposed	July 20	July 28	Aug. 9
Sunderland Corporation	Lords Bill	June 2	June 12	June 12	Group K	July 11	July 24	Aug. 1
Surrey Commercial Docks	Lords Bill	Apr. 18	May 1	May 1	Unopposed	May 12	May 16	June 6
Taff Vale Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 27	Feb. 27	Unopposed	Apr. 21	May 4	July 13
Tees Valley Water (*see* Stockton and Middlesbrough Water.)								
Telegraph Act (1892) Amendment	Feb. 13	Mar. 6	Withdrawn.	—	—	—	—	—
Tenterden Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 14	Mar. 14	Unopposed	Mar. 24	Apr. 14	June 6
Thames Ferry (Greenwich to Millwall)	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Withdrawn.	—	—	—	—	—
Totland Water	Lords Bill	May 12	June 13	June 13	Unopposed	June 20	July 13	Aug. 1
Transvaal Mortgage Loan and Finance Company	Lords Bill	June 13	June 26	June 26	Unopposed	July 5	July 10	July 13
Uxbridge and Rickmansworth Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Apr. 17	Apr. 17	Unopposed	May 12	May 18	Aug. 9
Vale of Glamorgan Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 8	Mar. 8	Unopposed	Mar. 28	Apr. 18	June 6

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NAME.	Petition presented.	Bill read first time.	Day fixed for second reading.	Bill read second time.	Committee to which Bills are referred.	Bill reported.	Bill read third time.	Royal Assent.
Wakefield Corporation	Lords Bill	May 18	June 6	June 6	Unopposed	July 20	Aug. 1	Aug. 9
Walker and Wallsend Union Gas (Electric Lighting)	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 23	Mar. 23	Group J	June 9	June 20	Aug. 1
Wallasey Tramways and Improvements	Lords Bill	Mar. 24	Apr. 11	Apr. 11	Group 6	Apr. 25	May 12	June 6
Walton-on-Thames and Weybridge Gas	Lords Bill	Mar. 27	Apr. 17	Apr. 17	Unopposed	Apr. 28	May 3	June 6
Warrington Corporation	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 21	Feb. 21	Police, &c.	June 22	July 4	Aug. 9
†Waterford and Central Ireland Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	May 31	May 31	Select	Withdrawn	—	—
Watermen's and Lightermen's Acts Amendment	Lords Bill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Gloucestershire Water	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 22	Mar. 22	Unopposed	May 12	June 8	Aug. 1
*West Highland Railway	Lords Bill	Apr. 18	May 1	May 1	Unopposed	May 9	May 18	June 20
West Metropolitan Railway	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Group 8	June 27	June 30	Aug. 9
West Middlesex Water	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 21	Mar. 21	Group D	May 3	May 12	July 13
Weston-super-Mare, Clevedon, and Portishead Tramways Company (Light Railway Extensions)	Lords Bill	June 5	June 14	June 14	Unopposed	July 14	July 28	Aug. 9
Weston-super-Mare Grand Pier	Lords Bill	July 3	July 18	July 18	Unopposed	July 25	July 28	Aug. 1
Wetherby District Water	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 20	Feb. 20	Group A	Mar. 21	Apr. 13	July 13
Whitehaven Corporation	Lords Bill	June 5	June 14	June 14	Unopposed	July 14	July 25	Aug. 1
*Wick and Pulteney Harbours	Lords Bill	May 16	June 6	June 6	Unopposed	June 20	June 29	July 13
*Wishaw Water	Lords Bill	May 15	—	June 5	Unopposed	June 16	June 21	July 13
Withington Urban District Council (Tramways)	Lords Bill	June 5	June 14	June 14	Unopposed	July 20	July 28	Aug. 9
Woking Water and Gas	Feb. 13	Feb. 15	Mar. 23	Mar. 23	Unopposed	May 18	June 8	Aug. 1
Wolverhampton Corporation	Lords Bill	June 29	July 10	July 10	Unopposed	July 24	Aug. 3	Aug. 9
Wolverhampton Tramways	Lords Bill	June 22	July 3	July 3	Unopposed	July 20	July 31	Aug. 9
Woodhouse and Conisbrough Railway (Abandonment)	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Mar. 14	Mar. 14	Unopposed	Mar. 28	Apr. 17	June 6
Worcestershire County Council	Feb. 13	Feb. 14	Feb. 21	Feb. 21	Group K	June 16	June 23	Aug. 9
Workington Corporation Water	Lords Bill	July 3	July 17	July 17	Unopposed	July 25	Aug. 3	Aug. 9
Yeadon and Guiseley Gas	Lords Bill	Mar. 27	Apr. 17	Apr. 17	Group L	July 14	July 27	Aug. 9
Yorke Estate	Lords Bill	June 15	June 26	June 26	Unopposed	June 30	July 4	July 13

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SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE.

RETURN "of the Number of Days on which the House sat in the Session of 1899, stating, for each Day, the Date of the Month, and Day of the Week, the Hour of the Meeting, and the Hour of Adjournment; and the Total Number of Hours occupied in the Sittings of the House and the Average Time; and showing the Number of Hours on which the House sat each Day, and the Number of Hours after Midnight; and the Number of Entries in each Day's Votes and Proceedings (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper, No. 0.281, of Session 1898)." —(*Dr. Farquharson.*)

Day of the Month.	Day of the Week.	Hour of Meeting.	Hour of Adjournment.	No. of Hours Sitting.	No. of Hours after Midnight.	No. of Entries in Votes.
1899.		H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	
Feb. 7	Tu.	2 0	11 50	9 50	—	89
„ 8	Wd.	12 0	5 30	5 30	—	34
„ 9	Th.	3 0	11 45	8 45	—	29
„ 10	Fr.	3 0	11 40	8 40	—	148
„ 13	M.	3 0	12 15	9 15	0 15	164
„ 14	Tu.	3 0	12 2	9 2	0 2	159
„ 15	Wd.	2 0	5 35	3 35	—	29
„ 16	Th.	3 0	12 15	9 15	0 15	22
„ 17	Fr.	3 0	12 1	9 1	0 1	35
„ 20	M.	3 0	12 5	9 5	0 5	88
„ 21	Tu.	3 0	12 2	9 2	0 2	65
„ 22	Wd.	12 0	5 35	5 35	—	33
„ 23	Th.	3 0	12 5	9 5	0 5	41
„ 24	Fr.	3 0	12 2	9 2	0 2	30
„ 27	M.	3 0	12 15	9 15	0 15	68
„ 28	Tu.	3 0	12 2	9 2	0 2	65
Total -	16	- -	- -	132 59	1 4	1,099
Mar. 1	Wd.	12 0	5 45	5 45	—	37
„ 2	Th.	3 0	12 5	9 5	0 5	36
„ 3	Fr.	3 0	12 10	9 10	0 10	32
„ 6	M.	3 0	12 10	9 10	0 10	53
„ 7	Tu.	3 0	12 10	9 10	0 10	35
„ 8	Wd.	12 0	5 31	5 31	—	49
„ 9	Th.	3 0	12 10	9 10	0 10	46
„ 10	Fr.	3 0	7 20	4 20	—	32
„ 13	M.	3 0	12 20	9 20	0 20	50
„ 14	Tu.	3 0	12 15	9 15	0 15	42
„ 15	Wd.	12 0	5 45	5 45	—	50
„ 16	Th.	3 0	12 30	9 30	0 30	54
„ 17	Fr.	3 0	2 0	11 0	2 0	39
„ 20	M.	3 0	2 55	11 55	2 55	35
„ 21	Tu.	3 0	2 25	11 25	2 25	95
„ 22	Wd.	12 0	5 35	5 35	—	51
„ 23	Th.	3 0	12 35	9 35	0 35	52
„ 24	Fr.	3 0	12 25	9 25	0 25	51
„ 27	M.	3 0	12 10	9 10	0 10	93
„ 28	Tu.	12 0	2 25	2 25	—	28
Total -	20	- -	- -	165 41	10 20	960
1899.		H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	
Apr. 10	M.	3 0	8 50	5 50	—	62
„ 11	Tu.	3 0	9 25	6 25	—	49
„ 12	Wd.	12 0	5 45	5 45	—	96
„ 13	Th.	3 0	12 40	9 40	0 40	66
„ 14	Fr.	3 0	12 45	9 45	0 45	45
„ 17	M.	3 0	12 35	10 35	1 35	94
„ 18	Tu.	3 0	8 45	5 45	—	47
„ 19	Wd.	12 0	5 45	5 45	—	65
„ 20	Th.	3 0	12 15	9 15	0 15	57
„ 21	Fr.	3 0	12 10	9 10	0 10	40
„ 24	M.	3 0	12 55	9 55	0 55	73
„ 25	Tu.	3 0	12 5	9 5	0 5	68
„ 26	Wd.	12 0	5 45	5 45	—	58
„ 27	Th.	3 0	12 5	9 5	0 5	66
„ 28	Fr.	3 0	12 10	9 10	0 10	65
Total -	15	- -	- -	120 55	4 40	940
May 1	M.	3 0	12 35	9 35	0 35	94
„ 2	Tu.	3 0	12 15	9 15	0 15	66
„ 3	Wd.	12 0	5 45	5 45	—	56
„ 4	Th.	3 0	12 5	9 5	0 5	52
„ 5	Fr.	3 0	12 10	9 10	0 10	52
„ 8	M.	3 0	12 10	9 10	0 10	86
„ 9	Tu.	3 0	12 25	9 25	0 25	69
„ 10	Wd.	12 0	5 50	2 50	—	52
„ 11	Th.	3 0	12 30	9 30	0 30	75
„ 12	Fr.	3 0	11 50	8 50	—	81
„ 15	M.	3 0	12 10	9 10	0 10	105
„ 16	Tu.	3 0	12 10	9 10	0 10	91
„ 17	Wd.	12 0	4 0	4 0	—	23
„ 18	Th.	3 0	12 30	9 30	0 30	102
„ 19	Fr.	3 0	6 15	3 15	—	57
„ 31	Wd.	12 0	5 50	5 50	—	71
Total -	16	- -	- -	126 30	30 0	1,132

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Return of the Number of Days on which the House sat in Session, 1899, &c.—*continued.*

Day of the Month.	Day of the Week.	Hour of Meeting.	Hour of Adjournment.	No. of Hours Sitting.	No. of Hours after Midnight.	No. of Entries in Votes.
1899.		H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	
June 1	Th.	3 0	9 45	6 45	—	36
„ 2	Fr.	3 0	12 25	9 25	0 25	108
„ 5	M.	3 0	12 10	9 10	0 10	72
„ 6	Tu.	3 0	12 20	9 20	0 20	68
„ 7	Wd.	12 0	5 35	5 35	—	60
„ 8	Th.	3 0	12 10	9 10	0 10	75
„ 9	Fr.	3 0	12 5	9 5	0 5	63
„ 12	M.	3 0	12 10	9 10	0 10	96
„ 13	Tu.	3 0	8 0	5 0	—	45
„ 14	Wd.	12 0	6 0	6 0	—	41
„ 15	Th.	3 0	12 20	9 20	0 20	60
„ 16	Fr.	3 0	12 5	9 5	0 5	50
„ 19	M.	3 0	12 10	9 10	0 10	98
„ 20	Tu.	3 0	12 10	9 10	0 10	80
„ 21	Wd.	12 0	5 35	5 35	—	44
„ 22	Th.	3 0	12 5	9 5	0 5	61
„ 23	Fr.	3 0	12 5	9 5	0 5	49
„ 26	M.	3 0	12 15	9 15	0 15	80
„ 27	Tu.	3 0	12 15	9 15	0 15	65
„ 28	Wd.	12 0	5 50	5 50	—	55
„ 29	Th.	3 0	12 40	9 40	0 40	69
„ 30	Fr.	3 0	12 5	9 5	0 5	46
Total -	22	- -	- -	182 15	3 30	1,421

Day of the Month.	Day of the Week.	Hour of Meeting.	Hour of Adjournment.	No. of Hours Sitting.	No. of Hours after Midnight.	No. of Entries in Votes.
1899.		H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	
July 3	M.	3 0	12 15	9 15	0 15	78
„ 4	Tu.	3 0	12 50	9 50	0 50	65
„ 5	Wd.	12 0	5 40	5 40	—	40
„ 6	Th.	3 0	12 35	9 35	0 35	61
„ 7	Fr.	3 0	12 5	9 5	0 5	43
„ 10	M.	3 0	12 35	9 35	0 35	77
„ 11	Tu.	3 0	12 35	9 35	0 35	45
„ 12	Wd.	12 0	6 5	6 5	—	13
„ 13	Th.	3 0	4 5 a.m.	13 5	4 5	37
„ 14	Fr.	3 0	12 10	9 10	0 10	83
„ 17	M.	3 0	1 0	10 0	1 0	67
„ 18	Tu.	3 0	1 0	10 0	1 0	56
„ 19	Wd.	12 0	6 50	6 50	—	26
„ 20	Th.	3 0	1 50	10 50	1 50	63
„ 21	Fr.	3 0	1 5	10 5	1 5	38
„ 24	M.	3 0	1 35	10 35	1 35	67
„ 25	Tu.	3 0	2 30	11 30	2 30	70
„ 26	Wd.	12 0	6 55	6 55	—	28
„ 27	Th.	3 0	2 5	11 5	2 5	63
„ 28	Fr.	3 0	1 15	10 15	1 15	34
„ 31	M.	3 0	12 20	9 20	0 20	80
Total -	21	- -	- -	198 20	19 50	1,134
Aug. 1	Tu.	3 0	2 30	11 30	2 30	64
„ 2	Wd.	12 0	6 50	6 50	—	34
„ 3	Th.	3 0	1 5	10 5	1 5	42
„ 4	Fr.	3 0	10 5	7 5	—	47
„ 7	M.	3 0	12 30	9 30	0 30	45
„ 8	Tu.	3 0	10 35	7 35	—	49
„ 9	Wd.	10 0	—	—	—	22
Total -	7	- -	- -	52 35	4 5	303

SUMMARY.

MONTH.	Number of Days Sitting.	Number of Hours Sitting.		Number of Hours after Midnight.		Number of Entries in Votes.
Session, 1899.		H.	M.	H	M.	
February - - - - - -	16	132	59	1	4	1,099
March - - - - - - -	20	165	41	10	20	960
April - - - - - - -	15	120	55	4	40	940
May - - - - - - -	16	126	30	3	0	1,132
June - - - - - - -	22	182	15	3	30	1,421
July - - - - - - -	21	198	20	19	50	1,134
August - - - - - -	7	52	35	4	5	303
Total - - -	117	979	15	46	29	6,989

Average Length of Sitting daily, 8 hours $22\frac{1}{75}$ minutes.

William H. Ley,
Clerk of the Journals.

August, 1899.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE (DAYS OCCUPIED BY GOVERNMENT AND BY PRIVATE MEMBERS).

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons. dated 1 August 1899;—*for*,

RETURN showing, with reference to SESSION 1899:—(1) the Number of Sittings on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at which Government Business had Precedence; (2) the Number of Sittings on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at which Private Members had Precedence; (3) the Number of other Sittings at which, in accordance with the Standing Orders of the House, Government Business had Precedence; (4) the Number of Sittings at which Government Business had Precedence under a Special Order of the House; (5) the Number of Saturday Sittings; (6) the Total Number of Sittings at which Government Business had Precedence; (7) the Total Number of Days on which the House Sat; (8) the Total Number of Motions for Adjournment of the House on a Matter of Urgent Public Importance; and (9) the Number of Days in Supply (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper, No. 358, of Session 1898).

SESSION 1899.

(1.)—The Number of SITTINGS on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at which GOVERNMENT BUSINESS had Precedence.

TUESDAY, 7th February. (First day of Meeting).

TUESDAYS:

14th February.	
21st February.	
14th March.	
21st March.	
28th March - - -	House met at noon, and adjourned at 2.20 p.m. for the Easter Recess.
18th April - - -	House counted out at 8.45 p.m.
25th April.	
2nd May.	
9th May.	
16th May.	
6th June.	
13th June - . -	House counted out at 8 o'clock.
20th June.	
27th June.	
4th July.	
11th July.	
18th July.	
25th July.	
1st August.	
8th August.	
TOTAL - - -	20 days.

WEDNESDAYS:

8th February.	
15th February - - -	Ash Wednesday, the House met at 2 o'clock.
21st June.	
28th June.	
5th July.	
12th July - - -	House sat until 6.5 p.m.
19th July - - -	House sat until 6.50 p.m.
26th July - - -	House sat until 6.55 p.m.
2nd August - - -	House sat until 6.50 p.m.
9th August - - -	House met at 10 o'clock (Prorogation).
TOTAL - - -	10 days.

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(1) Sittings on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, &c.—*continued.*

FRIDAYS:

17th February.
24th February.
3rd March.
10th March.
17th March.
24th March.
14th April.
21st April.
28th April.
5th May.
12th May.
19th May - - - House adjourned at 6.15 p.m. for the Whitsun Recess.
2nd June.
9th June.
16th June.
23rd June.
30th June.
7th July.
14th July.
21st July.
28th July.
4th August.

TOTAL - - - 22 days.

(2.)—The Number of SITTINGS on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at which PRIVATE MEMBERS had Precedence.

TUESDAYS:

28th February.
7th March.
11th April - - House counted out at 25 minutes after 9 o'clock.

TOTAL - - - 3 days, of which none were Evening Sittings.

WEDNESDAYS:

22nd February.
1st March.
8th March.
15th March.
22nd March - - - After Second Reading of Consolidated Fund (No. 1) Bill.
12th April.
19th April.
26th April.
3rd May.
10th May.
17th May - - - Notice being taken at half-past Twelve that 40 Members were not present, the House was told by Mr. Speaker, and 24 Members only being present, Mr. Speaker retired from the Chair until Four of the clock, when the House was again told by Mr. Speaker, and, 34 Members only being present, the House adjourned.
31st May.
7th June.
14th June.

TOTAL - - - 14 days.

FRIDAYS:

10th February.

TOTAL - - - 1 day.

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(3.)—The Number of OTHER SITTINGS at which, in accordance with the STANDING ORDER of the HOUSE, GOVERNMENT BUSINESS had Precedence.

		TOTAL.
February:		
Mondays, 13th, 20th, 27th	3	6 days.
Thursdays, 9th, 16th, 23rd	3	
March:		
Mondays, 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th	4	8 days.
Thursdays, 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd	4	
April:		
Mondays, 10th, 17th, 24th	3	6 days.
Thursdays, 13th, 20th, 27th	3	
May:		
Mondays, 1st, 8th, 15th	3	6 days.
Thursdays, 4th, 11th, 18th	3	
June:		
Mondays, 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th	4	9 days.
Thursdays, 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th	5	
July:		
Mondays, 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st	5	9 days.
Thursdays, 6th, 13th,* 20th, 27th	4	
August:		
Monday, 7th	1	2 days.
Thursday, 3rd	1	
TOTAL during SESSION		46 days.

* House sat until 5 minutes after 4 o'clock in the morning.

4.)—The Number of SITTINGS at which GOVERNMENT BUSINESS had Precedence under a SPECIAL ORDER of the HOUSE.

14th February 1899, page 67 of the Votes.

(*a*) Business of the House (Queen's Speech; Motion for an Address).—*Ordered*, That the Proceedings on the Address in answer to Her Majesty's Speech have precedence this day and To-morrow of the Notices of Motions and of the other Orders of the Day.

FEBRUARY.

(*a*) Tuesday - - - - - - - 14th February.
(*a*) Wednesday - - - - - - - 15th February.

21st February 1899, page 93 of the Votes.

Ordered, That the Proceedings on the Address in answer to Her Majesty's Speech have precedence this day of the Notices of Motion and, if the Proceedings on the Address be not concluded this day, then such Proceedings do have precedence To-morrow of the Orders of the Day.

Tuesday - - - - - - - - - 21st February.

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(4) Sittings at which Government Business had Precedence, &c.—*continued.*

23rd February 1899, page 104 of the Votes.

(*b*) Business of the House (Supply),—*Ordered*, That so soon as the Committee of Supply has been appointed and Estimates have been presented, the Business of Supply shall (until it be disposed of) be the first Order of the Day on Friday, unless the House otherwise order on the Motion of a Minister of the Crown, moved at the commencement of Public Business to be decided without Amendment or Debate; and the provisions of Standing Order No. 56 shall be extended to Friday.

Not more than twenty days, being days before the 5th of August on which the Speaker leaves the Chair for the Committee of Supply without Question put, counting from the first day on which the Speaker so left the Chair under Standing Order No. 56, shall be allotted for the consideration of the Annual Estimates for the Army, Navy, and Civil Services, including Votes on Account, the Business of Supply standing first Order on every such day.

Provided always, That on Motion made after Notice by a Minister of the Crown to be decided without Amendment or Debate, additional time not exceeding three days, may be allotted for the Business of Supply, either before or after the 5th of August.

On the last but one of the allotted days, at 10 o'clock p.m., the Chairman shall proceed to put forthwith every Question necessary to dispose of the outstanding Votes in Committee of Supply; and on the last, not being earlier than the twentieth of the allotted days, the Speaker shall, at 10 o'clock p.m., proceed to put forthwith every Question necessary to complete the outstanding Reports of Supply.

On the days appointed for concluding the Business of Supply, the consideration of such business shall not be anticipated by a Motion of Adjournment under Standing Order No. 17; nor may any dilatory Motion be moved on such proceedings; nor shall they be interrupted under the provisions of any Standing Order relating to the Sittings of the House.

Provided always, That any additional Estimate for any new service or matter, not included in the original Estimates for the year, shall be submitted for consideration in the Committee of Supply on any day not later than two days before the Committee is closed.

Provided also, That the days occupied by the consideration of Estimates supplementary to those of a previous Session, or of any Vote of Credit, shall not be included in the computation of the twenty days. Provided also, That two Morning Sittings shall be deemed equivalent to one Three o'clock Sitting.

(*b*) Friday - - - - - - - - - - - 24th February.

TOTAL in February, 4 days.

MARCH.

(*b*) Friday - - - - - - - - - - - - 3rd March
(*b*) Friday - - - - - - - - - - - - 10th March.

13th March 1899, page 160 of the Votes.

Ordered, That Government business have precedence to-morrow and the provisions of Standing Order 56 be extended to that day's Sitting.

(*b*) Tuesday - - - - - - - - - - - - 14th March.
(*b*) Friday - - - - - - - - - - - - 17th March.

20th March 1899, page 187 of the Votes.

(*c*) *Ordered*, That Government Business have precedence to-morrow.

(*c*) Tuesday - - - - - - - - - - - - 21st March.

22rd March 1899, page 208 of the Votes.

(*d*) *Ordered*, That the other Government Business have precedence to-morrow of the Committee of Supply.

(*d*) Friday - - - - - - - - - - - - 24th March.

27th March 1899, page 224 of the Votes.

(*e*) *Resolved*, That this House do meet to-morrow at noon.

(*e*) Tuesday - - - - - - - - - - - - 28th March.

TOTAL in March, 7 days.

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(4) Sittings at which Government Business had Precedence, &c.—*continued.*

APRIL.

18th April 1899, page 272 of the Votes.

(*b*) Friday - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 14th April.

(*f*) *Question*, "That the proceedings on the Metropolitan Water Companies (Government Bill have precedence this day of the Notice of Motions and the other Orders of the Day." Carried on Division (Ayes 190, Noes 102).

(*f*) Tuesday - - - - - - - - - - - - 18th April.
(*b*) Friday - - - - - - - - - - - - 21st April.

24th April 1899, page 294 of the Votes.

(*g*) *Ordered*, That after this day, the several stages of the London Government Bill and the Finance Bill have precedence of all Orders of the Day and Notices of Motions on every day for which the Bills or either of them are appointed.

(*g*) Tuesday - - - - - - - - - - - - 25th April.
(*b*) Friday - - - - - - - - - - - - 28th April.

TOTAL in April, 5 days.

MAY.

(*g*) Tuesday - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 2nd May.
(*b*) Friday - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 5th May.
(*g*) Tuesday - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 9th May.
(*g*) Friday - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 12th May.
(*g*) Tuesday - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 16th May.
(*b*) Friday - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 19th May.

TOTAL in May, 6 days.

JUNE.

(*b*) Friday - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 2nd June
(*g*) Tuesday - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 6th June.
(*b*) Friday - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 9th June.
(*g*) Tuesday - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 13th June.
(*b*) Friday - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 16th June.

19th June 1899, page 490 of the Votes.

(*h*) Business of the House (Government Business).—*Question*, "That for the remainder of the Session Government Business do have precedence on Tuesday and Wednesday, and that the provisions of Standing Order 56 be extended to all the days of the week." Carried on Division (Ayes 250, Noes 119.)

(*h*) Tuesday - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 20th June.
(*h*) Wednesday - - - - - - - - - - - - - 21st June.
(*b*) Friday - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 23rd June.
(*h*) Tuesday - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 27th June.
(*h*) Wednesday - - - - - - - - - - - - - 28th June.
(*b*) Friday - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 30th June.

TOTAL in June, 11 days.

JULY

(*h*) Tuesday - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 4th July.
(*h*) Wednesday - - - - - - - - - - - - - 5th July.
(*b*) Friday - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 7th July.
(*h*) Tuesday - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 11th July.
(*h*) Wednesday - - - - - - - - - - - - - 12th July.
(*b*) Friday - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 14th July.
(*h*) Tuesday - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 18th July.
(*h*) Wednesday - - - - - - - - - - - - - 19th July.
(*b*) Friday - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 21st July.
(*h*) Tuesday - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 25th July.
(*h*) Wednesday - - - - - - - - - - - - - 26th July.

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(4) Sittings at which Government Business had Precedence, &c.—*continued.*

7th July 1899, page 575 of the Votes.

(*i*) *Ordered,* That three additional days be allotted to the Business of Supply.

(*i*) Friday - - - - - - - - - - - 28th July.

TOTAL in July, 12 days.

AUGUST.

(*h*) Tuesday - - - - - - - - - -	1st August.
(*h*) Wednesday - - - - - - - - - -	2nd August.
(*i*) Friday - - - - - - - - - -	4th August.
(*h*) Tuesday - - - - - - - -	8th August.
(*h*) Wednesday - - - - - - - - - -	9th August.

TOTAL in August, 5 days.

TOTAL during the SESSION, 50 days.

(5.)—The Number of SATURDAY SITTINGS.
Nil.

(6.)—The Total Number of SITTINGS at which GOVERNMENT BUSINESS had Precedence - - - - - - - 98.

(7.)—The Total Number of DAYS on which the House sat - - 117.

(8.)—The Total Number of MOTIONS for ADJOURNMENT of the HOUSE on a Matter of Urgent PUBLIC IMPORTANCE.

Name of Member who Moved the Adjournment.	Date.	Question Discussed.	Result of Motion.
Mr. Labouchere - -	27th February -	St. James, Northamptonshire (School).	Negatived on Division (Ayes, 99; Noes, 201).
Mr. Pritchard Morgan	13th March -	Chinese Territory (Demands of Italy).	Negatived without a Division.
Captain Sinclair -	11th May - -	Secondary Education (Scotland).	By leave withdrawn.
Mr. Davitt - -	18th May - -	Public Meeting, County of Mayo.	Negatived on Division (Ayes, 107; Noes, 212).
Mr. Dillon - - -	1st June - -	Belfast (Public Meetings).	Negatived on Division (Ayes, 73; Noes, 125).

TOTAL - - - 5.

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(9.)—The Number of DAYS on which Business of Supply was considered.

SESSION 1899.

Friday	24th February.	*Friday	2nd June.
Monday	27th February.	Monday	5th June.
Thursday	2nd March.	*Friday	9th June.
*Friday	3rd March.	*Friday	16th June.
Friday	10th March.	*Thursday	22nd June.
Monday	13th March.	*Friday	23rd June.
*Tuesday	14th March.	*Friday	30th June.
*Thursday	16th March.	*Friday	7th July.
*Friday	17th March.	*Friday	14th July.
*Monday	20th March.	*Friday	21st July.
Monday	10th April.	*†Friday	28th July.
*Friday	14th April.		
*Friday	21st April.		
*Friday	28th April.		
*Friday	5th May.	Monday	31st July.
*Friday	19th May.	*†Thursday	3rd August.
*Thursday	1st June.	†Friday	4th August.

† 7th July 1899, page 575 of the Notes. *Ordered*, That three additional days be allotted to the Business of Supply.

TOTAL - - - 31 days.

* Days on which Supply was considered in Committee under orders of the 23rd February and 7th July, 1899.
† Report of Supply was taken on Friday, 4th August—the last of these three days.

SUMMARY.

SESSION 1899.

(1.) The Number of Sittings on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at which Government Business had precedence.	(2.) The Number of Sittings on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at which Private Members had Precedence.	(3.) The Number of other Sittings at which, in accordance with the Standing Orders of the House, Government Business had Precedence.	(4.) The Number of Sittings at which Government Business had Precedence under a Special Order of the House.	(5.) The Number of Saturday Sittings.	(6.) The Total Number of Sittings at which Government Business had Precedence.	(7.) The Total Number of Days on which the House Sat.	(8.) The Total Number of Motions for Adjournment of the House on a Matter of Urgent Public Importance.	(9.) Number of Days on which Business of Supply was considered.
TOTALS - 52*	18	46	50	0	98 *	117	5	31

* Excluding Tuesday, 7th February, first day of Meeting.

William H. Ley,
Clerk of the Journals.

10th August, 1899.

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DIVISIONS OF THE HOUSE.

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 1 August 1899;—*for*,

RETURN of the Number of DIVISIONS of THE HOUSE in the Session of 1899; stating the Subject of the Division, and the Number of Members in the Majority and Minority, Tellers included; also, the AGGREGATE NUMBER in the House on each Division, distinguishing the DIVISIONS on PUBLIC BUSINESS from PRIVATE; and also the Number of Divisions before and after Midnight (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper, No. 0.280, of Session 1898).

SUMMARY OF DIVISIONS.

Number of Divisions on PUBLIC BUSINESS before Midnight	292
Ditto - - - - - after Midnight	60
Ditto PRIVATE BUSINESS before Midnight	11
Ditto - - - - - after Midnight	—
TOTAL Number of Divisions in Session 1899	363

DIVISIONS ON PUBLIC BUSINESS.

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:						
21	Feb. 27	Adjournment.—Mr. Labouchere, Member for the Borough of Northampton, rose in his place, and asked leave to move the Adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz., "the persistent refusal of the managers of the only school in the urban district of Saint James, Northamptonshire, to admit above 300 children of the ratepayers of the district into this school on the sole ground of their wearing a medal, thus rendering the parents of these children unable to fulfil the obligations imposed on them by law;" but the pleasure of the House not having been signified, Mr. Speaker called on those Members who supported the Motion to rise in their places, and not less than 40 Members having accordingly risen, Motion made, and Question put, "That this House do now adjourn."—(*Mr. Labouchere.*)	101	203	305	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:						
156	May 18	Adjournment.—Mr. Davitt, Member for South Mayo, rose in his place, and asked leave to move the Adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz., "the suppression of a public meeting in the county of Mayo, on Sunday last, by a force of armed police, and of an unwarranted interference thereby with the legal right of the people of that country to exercise the privileges of free speech and of public meeting for the purpose of discussing their grievances, and of demanding constitutional remedies therefor," but the pleasure of the House not having been signified, Mr. Speaker called on those Members who supported the Motion to rise in their places, and not less than 40 Members having accordingly risen, Motion made, and Question put, "That this House do now adjourn."—(*Mr. Davitt.*)	109	214	324	B. M.	
165	June 1	Adjournment.—Mr. Dillon, Member for East Mayo, rose in his place, and asked leave to move the Adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz., "the persistent holding of disorderly and riotous public meetings in the city of Belfast, and the grave danger to the public peace resulting from these proceedings, and from the inaction of the executive;" but the pleasure of the House not having been signified, Mr. Speaker called on those Members who supported the Motion to rise in their places, and not less than 40 Members having accordingly risen, Motion made, and Question put, "That this House do now adjourn."—(*Mr. Dillon.*)	75	127	203	B. M.	
94	Apr. 24	Aged Deserving Poor.—"That a Select Committee of seventeen Members be appointed to consider and report upon the best means of improving the condition of the Aged Deserving Poor, and for providing for those of them who are helpless and infirm; and to inquire whether any of the Bills dealing with Old Age Pensions, and submitted to Parliament during the present Session, can with advantage be adopted, either with or without amendment."—(*Sir William Walrond.*)—Amendment proposed, to leave out all the words after the word "That," and add the words	265	95	361	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:	Aged Deserving Poor—*cont.* "having regard to the fact that a Royal Commission and a Special Committee have within the last four years reported upon the condition of, and the providing pensions for, the Aged Poor, this House considers that further inquiry is not likely to shed further light on the subject, and that the Government should undertake the responsibility of making such proposals as they may deem good."—*Mr. Logan.*)—Question put, "That the words proposed to be left out, to the word "infirm," inclusive, stand part of the Question."					
109	May 1	——— "That *Mr. Chaplin* be one other Member of the Committee."—(*Sir W. Walrond.*)	256	84	341	B. M.	
110	" "	——— "That *Mr. Cripps*, be one other Member of the Committee."—(*Sir W. Walrond.*)—Mr. Speaker, in pursuance of Standing Order 16, after permitting a brief statement against the Motion, put the Question forthwith, "That this Debate be now adjourned."	138	221	360	B. M.	
111	" "	——— "That Lord Edmond Fitz-Maurice be one other Member of the Committee."	282	79	362	B. M.	
292	July 24	Agriculture and Technical Instruction (Ireland) Bill.—As amended considered.—Page 1, line 10.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Dillon.*)	135	80	216	B. M.	
293	" "	——— Page 1, line 20.—Amendment.—(*Sir C. Dilke.*)	163	93	257	B. M.	
362	Aug. 7	——— Lords Amendments considered.—Page 5, line 11.—That this House doth agree with the Lords in the said Amendment.	71	49	121	B. M.	
78	Apr. 14	Army (Annual) Bill.—(In Committee.)—Clause 4.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Caldwell.*)	118	37	156	B. M.	
79	" "	——— Clause 4.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Caldwell.*)	114	36	151	.	A. M.
80	" "	——— That Clause 4 stand part of the Bill.	112	33	146	...	A. M.

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
15	1899: Feb. 21	Bishops (House of Lords).—"That the legislative power of Bishops in the House of Peers in Parliament is a great hindrance to the discharge of their spiritual functions, prejudicial to the Commonwealth, and fit to be taken away by Bill."—(*Mr. Herbert Lewis.*)	131	202	334	B. M.	
206	June 26	Board of Education Bill.—That the Bill be committed to the Standing Committee on Law.—(*Sir John Gorst.*)	184	82	267	B. M.	
323	Aug. 1	——— As amended considered.—Page 2, line 1.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Talbot.*)	24	144	169	B. M.	
324	" "	——— Page 2, line 12.—Amendment. —(*Mr. A. Hutton.*)	155	46	202	B. M.	
325	" "	——— Page 2, line 12.—Amendment. —(*Lord E. FitzMaurice.*)	54	145	200	B. M.	
219	July 4	Board of Education (Salaries).—(In Committee.)—"That it is expedient to authorise the payment, out of moneys to be provided by Parliament, of a salary, not exceeding 2000*l.*, to the President of the Board of Education, and of salaries and remuneration to the secretaries, officers, and servants of the Board, in pursuance of any Act of the present Session to provide for the establishment of a Board of Education for England and Wales."—(*Sir John Gorst.*)—Amendment proposed, to leave out "2000*l.*," and insert "1000*l.*"—(*Mr. Yoxall.*)—Question put, "That '2000*l.*' stand part of the Question."	129	52	182	B. M.	
16	Feb. 23	Business of the House (Supply).—"That, so soon as the Committee of Supply has been appointed and Estimates have been presented, the Business of Supply shall (until it be disposed of) be the first Order of the day on Friday, unless the House otherwise order on the Motion of a Minister of the Crown moved at the commencement of Public Business, to be decided without Amendment or Debate; and the provisions of Standing Order No. 56 shall be extended to Friday. Not more than twenty days, being days before the 5th of August, on which the Speaker leaves the Chair for the Committee of Supply without Question put, counting from the first day on which the Speaker so left the Chair under Standing Order No. 56, shall be allotted for the consideration of the Annual Estimates for the Army, Navy, and Civil Services,	248	94	343	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:	Business of the House (Supply)—*cont.* including Votes on Account, the Business of Supply standing first Order on every such day: Provided always, that on Motion made after Notice by a Minister of the Crown to be decided without Amendment or Debate, additional time, not exceeding three days, may be allotted for the Business of Supply, either before or after the 5th of August. On the last but one of the allotted days, at Ten o'clock p.m., the Chairman shall proceed to put forthwith every Question necessary to dispose of the outstanding Votes in Committee of Supply; and on the last, not being earlier than the twentieth of the allotted days, the Speaker shall, at Ten o'clock p.m., proceed to put forthwith every question necessary to complete the outstanding Reports of Supply: On the days appointed for concluding the Business of Supply, the consideration of such business shall not be anticipated by a Motion of Adjournment under Standing Order No. 17; nor may any dilatory Motion be moved on such proceedings; nor shall they be interrupted under the provisions of any Standing Order relating to the Sittings of the House: Provided always that any additional Estimate for any new service or matter, not included in the original Estimates for the year, shall be submitted for consideration in the Committee of Supply on any day not later than two days before the Committee is closed: Provided also that the days occupied by the consideration of Estimates supplementary to those of a previous Session, or of any vote of Credit, shall not be included in the computation of the twenty days: Provided also that two Morning Sittings shall be deemed equivalent to one Three o'clock Sitting."—*Mr. Balfour.*) — Amendment proposed in line 8, to leave out the word "twenty," and insert the words "twenty-three," — (*Mr. Dalziel*), — instead thereof.)—Question put, "That the word 'twenty' stand part of the Question."					
39	Mar. 13	Business of the House (Government Business)—"That Government Business have precedence To-morrow, and that the provisions of Standing Order 56 be extended to that day's sitting." (*Mr. Balfour.*)	224	120	345	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:						
54	Mar. 20	Business of the House (Government Business — *cont.* — That Government Business have precedence To-morrow. —(*Mr. Balfour.*)	198	98	297	B. M.	
91	Apr. 24	Business of the House (London Government Bill and Finance Bill).—"That, after this day, the several stages of the London Government Bill and the Finance Bill have precedence of all Orders of the day and Notices of Motions on every day for which the Bills or either of them are appointed." —(*Mr. Balfonr.*) — Amendment proposed, at the end of the question, to add the words "except on Wednesday the 17th May,"—(*Mr. Strachey*). —Question proposed, "That those words be there added."— Amendment proposed to the proposed Amendment, to leave out the words "Wednesday the 17th May," and add the word "Wednesdays.' —(*Mr. Bryn Roberts.*)—Question put, "That the words 'Wednesday the 17th May' stand part of the proposed Amendment."	62	275	338	B. M.	
92	,, ,,	———— Question put "That the words 'except on Wednesdays' be added to the Main Question."	130	220	351	B. M.	
93	,, ,,	———— Main Question put - -	264	90	355	B. M.	
84	Apr. 18	Business of the House (Metropolitan Water Companies Bill).—"That the proceedings on the Metropolitan Water Companies [Government] Bill have precedence this day of the Notices of Motions and the other Orders of the Day."—(*Mr. Balfour.*)	192	104	297	B. M.	
195	June 19	Business of the House (Government Business).—"That for the remainder of the Session Government Business do have precedence on Tuesday and Wednesday, and that the provisions of Standing Order 56 be extended to all the days of the week."—(*Mr. Balfour.*)	252	121	374	B. M.	
132	May 10	Church Discipline Bill—"That the Bill be now read a second time."—Amendment proposed, to leave out from the word "That," to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "this House, while not prepared to accept a measure which creates fresh offences and ignores the authority of the Bishops in maintaining the discipline of the Church, is of opinion that, if the	158	312	471	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight	After Midnight.
	1899:	Church Discipline Bill—*cont.* efforts now being made by the Archbishops and Bishops to secure the due obedience of the Clergy are not speedily effectual, further legislation will be required to maintain the observance of the existing Laws of Church and Realm."—(*Mr. Attorney General.*)—Question put, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question."					
317	July 31	Colonial Loans Bill.—"That the Bill be now read a second time."—Amendment proposed to leave out the word "now," and at the end of the Question to add the words "upon this day three months."—(*Mr. Buchanan.*)—Question put, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question."	120	68	189	B. M.	
318	,, ,,	Main Question put - - - - -	126	71	198	B. M.	
329	Aug. 2	——— In Committee.—Clause 1.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Buchanan.*)	126	29	156	B. M.	
330	,, ,,	——— That Clause 1 stand part of the Bill.	125	32	158	B. M.	
331	,, ,,	——— Clause 2.—Amendment.—(*Mr. H. Roberts.*	118	49	168	B. M.	
332	,, ,,	——— Schedule.—Page 3, line 6.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Labouchere.*)	142	45	188	B. M.	
333	,, ,,	——— Schedule.—Page 3, line 8.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Labouchere.*)	150	41	192	B. M.	
334	,, ,,	——— Schedule.—Page 3, line 9.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Buchanan.*)	160	40	201	B. M.	
335	,, ,,	——— Schedule.—Page 3, line 14.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Labouchere.*)	153	40	194	B. M.	
131	,, ,,	Committees (Ascension Day),—"That Committees do not sit To-morrow, being Ascension Day, until Two of the clock."—(*Mr. Balfour.*)	186	70	257	B. M.	
86	Apr. 19	Criminal Law and Procedure (Ireland) Act (1887) Repeal Bill.—"That the Bill be now read a second time."—Amendment proposed, to leave out from the word "now," and at the end of the Question to add the words "upon this day six months."—(*Dr. Rentoul.*)—Question put, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question."	143	222	366	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:						
24	Feb. 28	County Courts' Jurisdiction.—"That, in the opinion of this House, the time has arrived when Her Majesty's Government may reasonably be expected to initiate or facilitate legislation having for its object a considerable extension of the ordinary Jurisdiction of County Courts in Common Law, Equity, and Admiralty Causes."—(*Mr. Monk.*)	71	100	172	B M.	
363	Aug. 8	East India Revenue Accounts.—"That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair." Amendment proposed, to leave out from the word "That," to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "under the existing procedure the superintending authority of Parliament over Indian affairs is not effectively exercised; that the salary of the Secretary of State for India should be placed on the Estimates; that the debate on the Indian Budget should be appointed for an earlier day in the Session; and that, with a view to the more effectual discharge by this House of its existing duty to the unrepresented Indian taxpayer, the East India Accounts should each year be referred to a Select Committee with instructions to report on any special features deserving the attention of the House"—(*Mr. Caldwell*),—instead thereof. —Question put, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question."	97	38	136	B. .	
102	Apr. 26	Ecclesiastical Assessments (Scotland) Bill.—"That the Bill be now read a second time." Amendment proposed, to leave out the word "now," and at the end of the Question to add the words "upon this day six months."—(*Sir Charles Cameron.*)—Question put, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question."	179	124	304	B. M.	
25	Mar. 1	Education of Children Bill.—"That the Bill be now read a second time."—Amendment proposed, to leave out the word "now," and at the end of the Question to add the words "upon this day six months.—(*Mr. George Whiteley.*)—Question put, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question."	319	61	381	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:						
160	May 31	Education of Children Bill—*cont.*—(In Committee.)—Clause 1.—Amendment.—(*Mr. George Whiteley.*)	12	165	178	B. M.	
161	,, ,,	——— Clause 1. — Amendment. — (*Mr. George Whiteley.*)	179	20	200	B. M.	
162	,, ,,	——— Clause 1. — Amendment. — (*Mr. George Whiteley.*)	247	28	276	B. M.	
163	,, ,,	——— Clause 1. — Amendment. — (*Col. Mellor.*)	65	231	297	B. M.	
164	,, ,,	———"That Clause 1 as amended stand part of the Bill."—"That the Question be now put."—(*Mr. Robson.*)	265	28	294	B. M.	
1	Feb. 7	Elections.—"That it is a high infringement of the liberties and privileges of the Commons of the United Kingdom for any Lord of Parliament, or other Peer or Prelate, not being a Peer of Ireland at the time elected, and not having declined to serve for any county, city, or borough of Great Britain, to concern himself in the election of Members to serve for the Commons in Parliament, except only any Peer of Ireland, at such elections in Great Britain respectively where such Peer shall appear as a Candidate, or by himself or any others, be proposed to be elected; or for any Lord Lieutenant or Governor of any county to avail himself of any authority derived from his Commission, to influence the Election of any Member to serve for the Commons in Parliament."—(*Mr. Balfour.*)—Amendment proposed, to leave out the words from the word "Kingdom," in line 2, to the word "for," in line 8.—(*Mr. James Lowther.*)—Question put, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question."	361	92	454	B. M.	
83	Apr. 17	Elementary Education (Code of Regulations for Day Schools).—"That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty praying Her graciously to withhold Her consent to the new portions of Articles 37 and 42 on pages 90 and 91 of the Code of Regulations for Day Schools which was presented to the House on the 21st day of March last."—(*Mr. Jeffreys.*)	149	69	219	—	A. M.

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division List.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
296	1899: July 24	Employment of Women Overtime in Washing Bottles, &c.—"That the Order of the Secretary of State for the Home Department, extending to factories and workshops in which the washing of bottles for use in the preserving of fruit is carried on, the special exception (Employment of Women Overtime) ought to be annulled."—(*Sir James Rankin.*)	27	85	113	—	A. M.
73	„ 11	English Church Union Memorial.—"That this House deplores the spirit of lawlessness shown in a Memorial which the English Church Union (a society of which more than 4,000 clergy of the Church of England are stated to be members) adopted unanimously at a meeting held in London on the 28th day of February last, and of which they directed copies to be sent to the Queen, and to every member of each House of Parliament, and approves of the declaration made in this House on the 2nd day of March last by the First Lord of the Treasury, that neither he nor the Lord Chancellor would recommend any clergyman to a benefice unless convinced that he was prepared loyally to obey his bishop, and, in accordance therewith confidently hopes that the Ministers of the Crown will not recommend any clergyman for ecclesiastical preferment unless they are satisfied that he will loyally obey the law as declared by the courts which have jurisdiction in matters ecclesiastical."—(*Mr. Sydney Gedge.*) — Amendment proposed, to leave out from the word "shown," in line 2, to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "by certain members of the Church of England, and confidentially hopes that the Ministers of the Crown will not recommend any clergyman for ecclesiastical preferment unless they are satisfied that he will loyally obey the bishops and the Prayer Book."—*Mr. Samuel Hoare.*)—Question, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question," put, and negatived.—Question proposed, "That those words be there added."—Amendment proposed to the proposed Amendment, to add, at the end thereof, the words "and the law declared by the courts which have jurisdiction in matters ecclesiastical."—(*Mr. Bartley.*)—Question put, "That those words be added to the proposed Amendment."	202	16	219	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:						
74	April 12	Evicted Tenants (Ireland) Re-instatement Bill.—"That the Bill be now read a second time."	71	169	241	B. M.	
336	August 2	Expiring Laws Continuance Acts.—(In Committee.)—Schedule Amendment.—(*Mr. Dillon.*)	120	44	165	B. M.	
112	May 2	Finance Bill.—"That the Bill be now read a second time."—Amendment proposed to leave out the word "now," and at the end of the Question to add the words "upon this day six months." (*Sir Henry Fowler.*)—Question put, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question."	282	157	440	—	A. M.
135	" 11	———— (In Committee).—Clause 1.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Broadhurst.*)	248	127	376	B. M.	
136	" "	———— Clause 2.—Amendment—(*Sir Howard Vincent.*)	39	194	234	B. M.	
137	" "	Finance Bill (In Committee).—Clause 8.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Lough.*)	199	94	294	B. M.	
138	" "	———— Clause 13.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Harwood.*)	171	87	259	B. M.	
139	" "	———— That Clause 13 stand part of the Bill.	156	79	236	—	A. M.
142	" 12	———— New Clause.—(Abolition of charge on property passing by disposition within 12 months of death).—(*Mr. Gibson Bowles.*)	3	166	170	B. M.	
182	June 8	———— As amended committed.—Page 5, line 29, Amendment.—(*Sir C. Cameron.*)	71	170	242	B. M.	
319	July 31	High Court of Justice, Chancery Division (Additional Judge).—"That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, representing that the state of business in the High Court of Justice is such as to require the appointment of an Additional Judge, and praying that Her Majesty will be graciously pleased to appoint a new Judge of the said High Court in the Chancery Division thereof, in pursuance of the eighteenth section of the The Appellate Jurisdiction Act, 1876."—(*Mr. Balfour.*)	161	30	192	B. M.	
31	Mar. 7	Houses of Lords and Commons Permanent Staff, Joint Committee,—"That Mr. James William Lowther be one other Member of the Committee."—(*Mr. Anstruther.*)	216	65	282	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:						
32	March 7	House of Lords and Commons Permanent Staff, Joint Committee,—*cont.*—"That Mr. Wharton be one other Member of the Committee."	222	71	294	B. M.	
33	" "	——— "That the Committee have power to send for persons, papers, and records.—That three be the quorum." —(*Mr. Anstruther.*)	232	65	298	B. M.	
220	July 4	Improvement of Land Bill,—"That the Bill be now read a second time."—Amendment proposed to leave out the word "now," and at the end of the Question to add the words "upon this day three months."—(*Mr. Samuel Evans.*)—Question put, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question."	142	46	189	B. M.	
221	" "	——— "That the Bill be committed to the Standing Committee on Law, &c."—(*Mr. Walter Long.*)	145	46	192	B. M.	
308	" 26	Improvement of Land Bill.—(As amended by the Standing Committee), considered.—"That the Bill be now read the third time."—Debate arising.—"That the Debate be now adjourned." (*Mr. Courtenay Warner*).	50	127	178	B M.	
315	" 27	——— Re-committed. — In Committee. — Clause 1. — Amendment.—(*Mr. Channing.*)	102	23	126	—	A. M.
316	" "	——— New Clause (Provision of adequate accommodation). — (*Mr. Channing.*)	23	98	122	—	A. M.
193	June 15	Indian Tariff Act, 1899,—"That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that Her Majesty will be pleased to disallow the Indian Tariff Act, 1899."—(*Sir Henry Fowler.*)	154	295	450	B. M.	
176	June 7	Intoxicating Liquors (Sunday Closing) Bill.—"That the Bill be now read a second time."—Amendment proposed to leave out from the word "That," to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "no Bill to restrict the Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday is satisfactory unless it embodies the principle of Local Option."—*Mr. Nussey.*)—Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question."—Debate arising: "That the Debate be now adjourned."—(*Mr. Galloway.*)	97	87	185	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:						
113	May 3	Liquor Traffic Local Veto (Scotland) Bill.—"That the Bill be now read a second time."—Amendment proposed, to leave out the word "now," and at the end of the Question to add the words "upon this day six months."—(*Mr. Faithfull Begg.*)—Question put, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question."	145	219	365	B. M.	
70	Mar. 24	London Government Bill.—"That the Bill be now read a second time."—Amendment proposed, to leave out from the word "That" to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "no Bill dealing with the Local Government of the Metropolis will be satisfactory which, while disturbing the existing system, fails to simplify and complete it, and which at the same time renders more difficult the attainment of the unity of London."—(*Mr. Gladstone.*)—Question put, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question."	247	120	368	—	A. M.
95	April 24	——— (In Committee.)—Clause 1.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Haldane.*)	210	105	316	B. M.	
97	" 25	——— Clause 1.—Amendment.—(*Mr. James Stuart.*)	244	132	377	B. M.	
98	" "	——— Clause 1.—Amendment.—(*Sir C. Dilke.*)	182	116	299	B. M.	
99	" "	——— Clause 1.—Amendment.—(*Mr. James Stuart.*)	186	103	290	B. M.	
100	" "	——— Clause 1.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Bousfield.*)	190	97	288	B. M.	
101	" "	——— Clause 1.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Pickersgill.*)	202	85	288	B. M.	
103	" 27	——— Clause 1.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Pickersgill.*)	247	142	390	B. M.	
104	" "	——— Clause 1.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Boulnois.*)	103	129	233	B. M.	
105	" "	——— Clause 1.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Lough.*)	181	79	261	B. M.	
106	" "	——— Clause 1.—Amendment.—(*Mr. H. Robertson.*)	126	157	284	B. M.	
114	May 4	——— Clause 1.—Amendment.—(*Captain Norton.*)	214	116	331	B. M.	

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	1899:						
115	May 4	London Government Bill—*cont.*—Clause 1.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Trevelyan.*)	71	154	226	B. M.	
116	,, ,,	——— Clause 1. — Amendment.—(*Mr. Billson.*)	89	189	279	B. M.	
117	,, ,,	——— Clause 1. — Amendment.—(*Mr. Asquith.*)	188	85	274	B. M.	
120	,, 8	——— Clause 1. — Amendment.—(*Mr. Cohen.*)	211	119	331	B. M.	
121	,, ,,	——— Clause 1. — Amendment.—(*Mr. Trevelyan.*)	136	227	364	B. M.	
122	,, ,,	——— Clause 1. — Amendment.—(*Captain Sinclair.*)	78	163	242	B. M.	
123	,, ,,	——— Clause 3. — Amendment.—(*Captain Norton.*)	79	172	252	B. M.	
124	,, 8	——— Clause 3. — Amendment.—(*Mr. James Stuart.*)	191	86	278	B. M.	
125	,, 9	——— Clause 7. — Amendment.—(*Mr. Pickersgill.*)	240	133	374	B. M.	
126	,, ,,	——— Clause 7. — Amendment.—(*Sir C. Dilke.*)	149	70	220	B. M.	
127	,, ,,	——— Clause 7. — Amendment.—(*Mr. James Stuart.*)	69	150	220	B. M.	
128	,, ,,	——— Clause 7. — Amendment.—(*Mr. James Stuart.*)	72	159	232	B. M.	
129	,, ,,	——— Clause 9. — Amendment.—(*M. James Stuart.*)	184	80	265	B. M.	
130	,, ,,	——— Clause 9. — Amendment.—(*Mr. Lough.*)	172	73	246	B. M.	
144	,, 15	——— Clause 9. — Amendment.—(*Mr. Pickersgill.*)	96	164	261	B. M.	
145	,, ,,	——— Clause 10.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Lough.*)	209	116	326	B. M.	
146	,, ,,	——— Clause 10.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Cripps.*)	225	131	357	B. M.	
147	,, ,,	——— Clause 10.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Pickersgill.*)	105	205	311	B. M.	
148	,, ,,	——— Clause 10.—Amendment.—(*Mr. James Stuart.*)	151	75	227	B. M.	
149	,, ,,	——— Clause 13.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Lionel Holland.*)	167	101	269	B M.	

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	1899:						
150	May 15	London Government Bill—*cont.*—"That Clause 13 stand part of the Bill."	172	80	253	B. M.	
151	" 16	——— Clause 14.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Lough.*)	194	102	297	B. M.	
152	" "	——— Clause 23.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Cohen.*)	174	96	271	B. M.	
153	" "	——— Clause 23.—Amendment.—(*Colonel Hughes.*)	141	63	205	B. M.	
154	" "	——— New Clause (Alteration of wards.)—(*Mr. Solicitor-General.*)	168	66	235	B. M.	
155	" "	——— New Clause (Borough Council to provide supply of water).—(*Colonel Lockwood.*)	62	153	216	B. M.	
158	" 18	——— Schedule.—(Amendment).—(*Mr. R. Wallace*) (Perth).	120	60	181	B. M.	
159	" "	——— Schedule.—(Amendment).—(*Mr. Lawson Walton.*)	122	51	174	B. M.	
171	June 6	——— As amended, considered, page 2, line 2. — Amendment. — (*Mr. Courtney.*)	198	163	362	B. M.	
172	" "	——— Page 2, line 5.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Pickersgill.*)	247	91	339	B. M.	
173	" "	——— As amended, considered, page 2, line 37. — Amendment. — (*Mr. Courtney.*)	69	141	211	B. M.	
174	" "	——— Page 5, line 32.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Pickersgill.*)	143	59	203	B. M.	
181	" 8	——— Page 18, line 10.—Amendment.—(*Sir S. Montague.*)	135	57	193	B. M.	
223	July 6	——— Lords Amendments considered, page 1, line 19.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Courtney.*)	179	248	428	B. M.	
224	" "	——— "That this House doth agree with the Lords in the said Amendment."	245	176	422	B. M.	
326	Aug. 1	Manchester Canonries Bill.—In Committee.—Clause 1.—That the Chairman do report Progress.—(*Mr. Galloway.*)	14	99	114	—	A. M.
327	" "	——— Amendment.—(*Mr. Galloway.*)	89	20	110	—	A. M.
328	" "	——— Amendment.—(*Mr. Lloyd George.*)	84	18	103	—	A. M.

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	1899:						
202	June 21	Military Works [Money] in Committee, "That it is expedient to authorise the issue, out of the Consolidated Fund, in addition to the sums authorised by the Military Works Act, 1897, of such further sums, not exceeding in the whole £4,000,000, as may be required for defraying the cost of certain Military Works and Services, such sums to be raised in manner provided by the said Act."—(*Mr. Wyndham.*)	243	68	312	B. M.	
225	July 6	Military Works Bill, "That the Bill be now read a second time."—Amendment proposed, to leave out from the word "That," to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "this House declines to proceed further with a Bill authorising the expenditure of public money upon military works unless full details of the purposes for which this outlay is to be made are contained therein."—(*Captain Sinclair.*)—Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question"; Debate arising; and, it being Midnight, Mr. Speaker proceeded to interrupt the business. Whereupon Mr. Balfour rose in his place, and claimed to move, "That the Question be now put." Question put, "That the Question be now put."	161	66	228	—	A. M.
226	,, ,,	——— Question put accordingly, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question."	161	66	228	—	A. M.
227	,, ,,	Mr. Balfour claimed "That the Main Question be now put."—Main Question put accordingly, "That the Bill be now read a second time."	161	55	217	—	A. M.
312	,, 27	Military Works Bill.—In Committee.—Clause 1.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Buchanan.*)	49	126	176	B. M.	
313	,, ,,	——— Schedule. — Amendment. — (*Captain Sinclair.*)	145	50	196	B. M.	
314	,, ,,	——— Amendment.—(*Sir J. Ferguson.*)	46	105	152	--	A M.
85	April 18	National Expenditure, "That, in the opinion of this House, the National Expenditure is excessive, and is capable of reduction without compromising the safety or legitimate influence of the country abroad, or the efficiency of its	71	135	207	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:	National Expenditure—*cont.* home administration."—(*Mr. Buchanan.*)—Amendment proposed, to leave out the words "in the opinion of this House," and insert the words "while this House is anxious to provide for the maintenance of the Navy in its existing relative strength, it is of opinion that"—(*Sir Charles Dilke*),—instead thereof.—Question, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question," put, and agreed to. Main Question put.					
310	July 27	Naval Works Bill.—In Committee.—Clause 1.—Amendment.—(*Mr. E. Robertson.*)	170	97	268	B. M.	
311	,, ,,	——— "That Clause 1 stand part of the Bill."	161	50	212	B. M.	
43	March 15	Petroleum Bill.—"That the Bill be now read a second time."—Amendment proposed, to leave out the word "now," and at the end of the Question to add the words "upon this day six months."—(*Mr. Kimber.*)—Question put, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question."	161	246	408	B. M.	
34	,, 7	Primary Education (England and Wales).—"That, in the opinion of this House, the system of Primary Education in England and Wales inflicts upon a large portion of Her Majesty's subjects a serious grievance which demands the immediate attention of Parliament."—(*Mr. Lloyd-George.*)	83	206	290	B. M.	
183	June 12	Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Bill.—(In Committee.)—Clause 1.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Parker Smith.*)	198	82	281	B. M.	
184	,, ,,	——— Clause 1.—Amendment.—(*Mr. E. Robertson.*)	148	58	207	B. M.	
185	,, ,,	——— Clause 1.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Caldwell.*)	132	57	190	B. M.	
186	,, ,,	——— "That Clause 1 as amended stand part of the Bill."	177	64	242	B. M.	
196	,, 19	——— Clause 2.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Cripps.*)	208	74	283	B. M.	
197	,, ,,	——— Clause 4.—Amendment.—(*Sir C. Cameron.*)	137	50	188	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:						
198	June 19	Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Bill—*cont.*—Clause 4.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Thomas Shaw.*)	151	71	223	B. M.	
199	,, ,,	——— Clause 5.—Amendment.—(*Sir C. Cameron.*)	159	84	244	B. M.	
201	,, 20	——— Clause 7.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Thomas Shaw.*)	208	142	351	B. M.	
218	July 4	——— As amended considered.—Page 6, line 15.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Thomas Shaw.*)	116	161	278	B. M.	
7	Feb. 14	Privilege.—Complaint made by the Right Honourable James Lowther, Member for the Thanet Division of Kent, that the Duke of Bedford and Earl Carrington had concerned themselves in the election of Members to the House of Commons.—Motion made, and Question put, "That, it having been represented to this House that the Duke of Bedford and Earl Carrington, two Lords of Parliament, did severally upon the 10th of February last infringe the liberties and privileges of this House by concerning themselves in the election of Members to the Commons, a Select Committee be appointed to consider the matter and report thereon to the House."—(*Mr. James Lowther.*)	121	232	354	B. M.	
169	June 5	Privilege (Interference of Peers in the Election for the Southport Division of Lancashire).—Complaint made by the Right Honourable James Lowther, Member for the Thanet Division of Kent, That the Duke of Devonshire and the Lord Bishop of Liverpool had concerned themselves in the election of a Member to the House of Commons for the County of Lancaster (Southport Division).—Motion made, and Question put, "That, it having been represented to this House that the Duke of Devonshire and the Lord Bishop of Liverpool did severally infringe the liberties and privileges of this House by concerning themselves in the election of a Member to represent the County of Lancaster (Southport Division) in the Commons, a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the said alleged breaches of privilege."—(*Mr. James Lowther.*)	88	233	322	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:						
69	Mar. 23	Queen Mary's School. Walsall (Scheme). —"That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying Her graciously to withhold Her consent to a Scheme under the Endowed Schools Act, 1869, and amending Acts, for the management of Queen Mary's School, Walsall, which was presented to this House on the 7th day of February last."—(*Mr. Sydney Gedge.*)	27	54	82	—	A. M.
2	Feb. 9	Queen's Speech (Address in Answer).—Another Amendment proposed, at the end of the Question, to add the words, "And we humbly represent to Your Majesty that, having regard to the lawlessness prevailing in the Church of England, some legislative steps should be taken to secure obedience to the law."—(*Mr. Samuel Smith.*)—Question put, "That those words be there added."	91	223	315	B. M.	
3	" 10	——— Another Amendment proposed, at the end of the Question, to add the words "And we humbly express our regret that there is no indication in Your Majesty's Gracious Speech that measures will be submitted to this House dealing with the ownership, tenure, or taxation of land in towns."—(*Mr. E. J. C. Morton.*)—Question put, "That those words be there added.	125	159	285	B. M.	
4	" 13	——— Another Amendment proposed, at the end of the Question, to add the words, "And we humbly express our regret that no reference is made in Your Majesty's Speech to questions specially affecting the interests of the people of Wales."—(*Mr. Herbert Lewis.*)—Question put, "That those words be there added."	146	196	343	B. M.	
5	" "	———Another Amendment proposed, at the end of the Question, to add the words, "And we humbly represent to Your Majesty that, in our opinion, it is expedient that any Bill which shall have been passed by this House, and shall not have been submitted to Your Majesty for Your Royal Assent in the Session in which it was passed by this House, shall, if passed by this House in the next ensuing Session, be submitted to Your Majesty, and, upon Your Royal Assent being signified, forthwith become Law." — (*Mr.*	259	109	369	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:						
		Queen's Speech (Address in Answer).—*cont.* *Labouchere.*) — Question proposed, "That those words be there added."—Amendment proposed to the proposed Amendment, to leave out from the word "That" to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "the power at present possessed by the House of Lords to override the decision of this House urgently demands the attention of Parliament." —(*Mr. Lawson Walton.*) — Question put, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the proposed Amendment."					
6	Feb. 13	——— Question put, "That the words, 'And we humbly represent to Your Majesty that, in our opinion, it is expedient that any Bill which shall have been passed by this House, and shall not have been submitted to Your Majesty for Your Royal Assent in the Session in which it was passed by this House, shall, if passed by this House in the next ensuing Session, be submitted to Your Majesty, and, upon Your Royal Assent being signified, forthwith become law,' be added to the Main Question."	107	225	333	B. M.	
9	„ 14	——— Another Amendment proposed, at the end of the Question, to add the words, "And we humbly express our regret that, although the Commissioners appointed by Your Majesty in 1892 to inquire into the Land Question in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland have reported that 1,782,785 acres of land now occupied as deer forests, grouse moors, &c., might be cultivated to profit, or otherwise advantageously occupied by crofters or small tenants, there is no indication in Your Majesty's Speech that arrangements will be made for acquiring some portion of this land so that the crroftes, cottars, and fishermen may be able to live under more favourable conditions than those under which many of them now exist; and that there is no indication that the benefits of the Crofters Act, 1886, will be extended to all crofter tenants holding under lease at the time of the passing of that Act."—(*Mr. Weir.*)—Question put, "That those words be there added."	144	199	344	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:						
10	Feb. 15	Queen's Speech (Address in Answer) —*cont.*—Another Amendment proposed, at the end of the Question, to add the words, "And we humbly represent to Your Majesty that 25 out of the 44 Ministers of the Crown who constitute Your Majesty's present Administration hold among them no fewer than 41 directorships in public companies, and that we consider the position of a public company director to be incompatible with the position of a Minister of the Crown, and that the union of such offices is calculated to lower the dignity of public life."—(*Mr. MacNeill.*)—Question put, "That those words be there added."	145	249	395	B. M.	
11	„ 16	——— Another Amendment proposed, at the end of the Question, to add the words,—"And we humbly assure Your Majesty that the establishment of popular self-government in local affairs in Ireland has intensified the demand of the people of that country for Legislative Independence, without which Ireland can never be prosperous or contented, and which, in our opinion, is, and must remain, the most urgent of all questions of domestic policy."—(*Mr. John Redmond.*) — Question put, "That those words be there added."	45	302	348	B. M.	
12	„ 20	——— Another Amendment proposed, at the end of the Question, to add the words, — "And we humbly represent to Your Majesty that the frequent recurrence of severe distress in certain districts of Ireland is the source of much suffering to the population of these localities, and calls for the speedy application of an efficient remedy for this social misery and privation by the introduction of legislation during the present Session for the enlargement of holdings, and the carrying out of feasible schemes of migration, in accordance with a resolution passed by the Congested Districts Board of Ireland in 1895, asking for compulsory powers to acquire suitable lands with which to provide increased opportunities of employment for the victims of this chronic distress." —(*Mr. Davitt.*)—Question put, "That those words be there added."	124	205	330	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:						
13	Feb. 20	Queen's Speech (Address in Answer) —*cont.*—Another Amendment proposed, at the end of the Question, to add the words,—"And we humbly represent to Your Majesty that in view of the great discontent existing among employees of the Postal and Telegraph Services immediate inquiry should be made into the causes of complaint."—(*Mr. Steadman.*)—Question put, "That those words be there added."	93	161	255	B. M.	
14	„ 21	———— Another Amendment proposed, at the end of the Question, to add the words,—"And we humbly express our regret that there is no indication in Your Majesty's Gracious Speech that the provisions of the Employers Liability Act will be extended to British Seamen, in order to secure greater protection to life and limb at sea."—(*Mr. Havelock Wilson.*)—Question proposed, "That those words be there added."—Amendment amended, by leaving out the words "Employers Liability Act," and inserting the words "Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897."—Question put, "That the words 'And we humbly express our regret that there is no indication in Your Majesty's Gracious Speech that the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, will be extended to British Seamen, in order to secure greater protection to life and limb at sea,' be added at the end of the Address."	127	208	336	B. M.	
211	July 3	Royal Niger Company [Consolidated Fund].—(In Committee.)—"That it is expedient to authorise the issue, out of the Consolidated Fund, of sums not exceeding £865,000, and for the purpose of providing money for such issue, the borrowing, by means of terminable annuities charged on and paid out of the moneys annually provided by Parliament for Foreign and Colonial Services, and if those moneys are insufficient, out of the Consolidated Fund, of a Sum not exceeding £820,000, for making payments to the Niger Company, in consideration of the transfer to the Crown of the Administrative powers of the said Company, together with their treaty and other rights and property, and for meeting expenditure rendered necessary by	105	194	300	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899: July 3	Royal Niger Company [Consolidated Fund]—(In Committee)—*cont.* such transfer."—(*Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer.*) — Debate arising. — Mr. Gibson Bowles moved, "That the Chairman do report progress, and ask leave to sit again," but the Chairman being of opinion that the Motion was an abuse of the Rules of the House, put the Question thereupon forthwith.					
212	,, ,,	——— Original Question again proposed. After Debate thereon.—Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer rose in his place, and claimed to move, "That the Question be now put."—Question put, "That the Question be now put."	218	118	337	B. M.	
213	,, ,,	——— Original Question put accordingly.	225	103	329	B. M.	
305	,, 26	Royal Niger Company Bill.—In Committee.— Clause 1. — Amendment. — (*Mr. Dillon.*)	145	59	205	B. M.	
306	,, ,,	——— "That Clause 1 stand part of the Bill."	173	80	254	B. M.	
307	,, ,,	——— New Clause (Land and mineral rights to be transferred to Crown). —(*Mr. Dillon.*)	91	162	254	B. M.	
309	,, 27	——— "That the Bill be now read the third time."	183	83	267	B. M.	
36	Mar. 9	Sale of Food and Drugs Bill.—"That the Bill be now read a second time."—Amendment proposed to leave out the word "now," and at the end of the Question to add the words "upon this day six months." — (*Mr. Lough.*)—Question proposed, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question."—After Debate thereon.—Mr. Balfour rose in his place, and claimed to move, "That the Question be now put."—Question put, "That the Question be now put."	166	57	224	B. M.	
37	,, ,,	——— Question put accordingly.	214	20	235	B. M.	
273	July 17	——— As amended, considered new clauses. (Amendment as to wholesale dealers.)—(*Sir C. Cameron.*)	77	177	255	B. M.	
274	,, ,,	———(Standing Committee of reference on food standards.) — (*Sir C. Cameron.*)	86	196	283	B. M.	
275	,, ,,	——— (Power of Inspectors)—(*Mr. Kearley.*)	52	179	232	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:						
276	July 18	Sale of Food and Drugs Bill.—*cont.* (Restriction as to colouring margarine to imitate butter.)—*Mr. Lambert.*)	70	299	370	B. M.	
77	,, ,,	——— (Colouring of milk or cream.) —(*Mr. Strachey.*)	59	240	300	B. M.	
278	,, 18	——— Page 1, line 7.—Amendment. —(*Mr. Colville.*)	159	21	181	B. M.	
279	,, ,,	——— Page 1, line 10.—Amendment. —(*Mr. Caldwell.*)	164	26	191	B. M.	
280	,, ,,	——— Page 2, line 3.—Amendment. —(*Sir Walter Foster.*)	78	199	278	B. M.	
281	,, ,,	——— Page 2, line 28.—Amendment. —(*Sir Walter Foster.*)	185	70	256	B. M.	
282	,, ,,	——— Page 4, line 1.—Amendment. —(*Sir C. Cameron.*)	143	46	190	—	A. M.
283	,, 19	——— Page 4, line 29.—Amendment. —(*Sir C. Cameron.*)	218	63	282	B. M.	
284	,, ,,	——— Page 5, line 16.—Amendment. —(*Sir C. Cameron.*)	168	85	254	B. M.	
286	,, 20	——— Page 5, line 17.—Amendment. —(*Sir C. Cameron.*)	133	50	184	B. M.	
287	,, ,,	——— Page 6, line 36.—Amendment. —(*Mr. Davitt.*)	190	73	264	B. M.	
288	,, ,,	——— Page 7, line 20.—Amendment. —(*Mr. Heywood Johnstone.*)	44	121	166	—	A. M.
289	,, ,,	——— Page 7, line 30—Amendment. (*Mr. J. B. Pease.*)—"That the Debate be now adjourned."—(*Sir C. Cameron.*)	30	115	146	—	A. M.
290	,, ,,	——— Page 7, line 34.—Amendment. —(*Sir C. Cameron.*)	32	109	142	—	A. M.
222	,, 5	Sea Fisheries Regulation Scotland Act, 1895, Amendment Bill.—"That the Bill be now read a second time."	127	172	300	B. M.	
35	Mar. 8	Service Franchise Bill—"That the Bill be now read second time,"—Amendment proposed, to leave out from the word "That," to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "this House refuses to add to the complexity of our present franchise system, which, in its opinion, can be remedied only by the adoption of a single,	190	90	281	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

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	1899:	Service Franchise Bill—*cont.* simple, and uniform franchise,"—(*Sir Charles Dilke*),—instead thereof.—Question put, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of Question."					
175	June 7	——— (In Committee.)—Clause 1.—Amendment.—(*Mr. M'Kenna.*)	42	60	103	B. M.	
189	" 14	——— As amended, new Clause (Application of Orders, &c., under Registration Acts.)—(*Sir C. Dilke.*)	141	186	328	B. M.	
190	" "	——— Page 1, line 6.—Amendment —(*Sir Blundell Maple*).—"That the Debate be now adjourned."—(*Mr. Clancy.*)	141	189	331	B. M.	
191	" "	———Question again proposed, "That those words be there inserted."—Debate arising:—And, it being after half-past Five of the clock, Mr. Speaker proceeded to interrupt the Business:—Whereupon Sir Blundell Maple rose in his place and claimed to move, "That the Question be now put."—Question put, "That the Question be now put."	187	145	333	B. M.	
192	" "	Question put accordingly - - -	173	156	330	B. M.	
8	Feb. 14	Sittings of the House (Ash Wednesday).—"That this House do meet To-morrow, at Two of the clock."—(*Mr. Balfour.*)	215	144	360	B. M.	
44	Mar. 16	Sittings of the House (Exemption of Supply).—"That the Proceedings of the Committee of Supply, if under discussion at Twelve o'clock this night, be not interrupted under Standing Order Sittings of the House."—(*Mr. Balfour.*)	223	126	350	B. M.	
46	" 17	——— "That the Business of Supply, if under discussion at Twelve o'clock this night, be not interrupted under Standing Order Sittings of the House."—(*Mr. Balfour.*)	161	98	260	B. M.	
53	" 20	——— "That the Business of Supply, if under discussion at Twelve o'clock this night, be not interrupted under Standing Order Sittings of the House."—(*Mr. Balfour.*)	182	21	274	B. M.	
87	" "	Sittings of the House (Exemption from the Standing Order).—"That the proceedings of the Committee of Ways and Means, if the Committee be sitting at Twelve o'clock this night, be not interrupted under the Standing Order Sittings of the House."—(*Mr. Balfour.*)	207	126	334	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:						
157	May 18	Sittings of the House (Exemption from the Standing Order)—*cont.*—"That the proceedings of the London Government Bill, if under discussion at Twelve o'clock this night, be not interrupted under the Standing Order Sittings of the House."—(*Mr. Balfour.*)	221	100	322	B. M.	
209	June 29	——— "That the proceedings on the Tithe Rent-charge (Rates) Bill, if under discussion at Twelve o'clock this night, be not interrupted under the Standing Order Sittings of the House." —(*Mr. Balfour.*)	265	88	354	B. M.	
249	July 13	——— "That the proceedings on the Tithe Rent-charge (Rates) Bill, if under discussion at Twelve o'clock this night, be not interrupted under the Standing Order Sittings of the House." (*Mr. Balfour.*)	249	150	400	B. M.	
272	" 17	Sittings of the House (Exemption of Government Business),—"That for the remainder of the Session Government Business be not interrupted under the provisions of any Standing Order regulating the sittings of the House, and may be entered upon at any hour though opposed; and that at the conclusion of Government Business each day Mr. Speaker do adjourn the House without Question put." — (*Mr. Balfour.*)	288	95	384	B. M.	
81	Mar. 17	Small Houses (Acquisition of Ownership) Bill.—"That the Bill be now read a second time." Amendment proposed, to leave out from the word "That," to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "in any measure for facilitating the acquisition of the ownership of Small Houses public money should not be advanced except upon the terms that the freehold should vest in public bodies and not in the individual, and that it is undesirable to discuss any such measure until the recommendations of the Local Taxation Commission on the subject of the taxation of ground values have been received."—(*Mr. M'Kenna.*)—Question put, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question."	251	71	323	B. M.	
82	" "	——— "That the Bill be committed to the Standing Committee on Law, &c."—(*Mr. Secretary Chamberlain.*)	226	81	308	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:						
207	June 28	Small Houses (Acquisition of Ownership) Bill, as amended considered.—Page 1, line 10.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Lowles.*)	261	69	331	B. M.	
208	" "	——— Page 5, line 39.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Hobhouse.*)	242	128	371	B. M.	
214	July 3	——— Page 5, line 40.—Amendment.—(*Colonel Milward.*)	98	190	289	B. M.	
215	" "	——— Page 6, line 1.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Strachey.*)	170	92	263	B. M.	
216	" "	——— Page 7, line 23.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Caldwell.*)	50	132	183	B. M.	
217	" "	——— Page 10, line 29.—Amendment.—(*Mr. W. Moore.*)	86	150	237	B. M.	
178	June 8	Soudan Expedition (Thanks of the House).—"That the thanks of this House be given to Major-General Lord Kitchener of Khartoum, G.C.B., K.C.M.G., for the distinguished skill and ability with which he planned and conducted the Campaign on the Nile of 1896-7-8, which culminated in the Battle of Omdurman, the capture of Khartoum, and the overthrow of the power of the Khalifa."—(*Mr. Balfour.*)	323	22	346	B. M.	
179	" "	——— "That the thanks of this House be given to—Major-General Sir Archibald Hunter, K.C.B., D.S.O.; Major-General Sir Henry Macleod Leslie Rundle, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., R.A.; Major-General Sir William Forbes Gatacre, K.C.B., D.S.O.; Major-General the Hon. Neville Gerald Lyttelton, C.B.; Major-General A. G. Wauchope, C.B., C.M.G.; Major and Brevet Colonel Sir Francis Reginald Wingate, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., R.A.; Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet Colonel C. J. Long, R.A.; Major and Brevet Colonel J. G. Maxwell, D.S.O.; Major and Brevet Colonel H. A. MacDonald, D.S.O.; Lieutenant-Colonel D. F. Lewis, C.B.; Major and Brevet Lieutenant Colonel J. Collinson, C.B.; Captain C. R. Keppel, C.B., D.S.O., R.N.; and to the other Officers and Warrant Officers of the Navy, the British and the Egyptian Army, and the Royal Marines, for the energy and gallantry with which they executed the services which they were called upon to perform."—(*Mr. Balfour*).	349	20	370	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:						
180	June 8	Soudan Expedition (Thanks of the House)—*cont.*—"That this House doth acknowledge and highly approve the gallantry, discipline, and good conduct displayed by the Petty Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, and men of the Navy, the British and Egyptian Army, and the Royal Marines during the campaign.—(*Mr. Balfour.*)	357	18	376	B. M.	
17	Feb. 24	Supply.—(In Committee)—£885,000 for Army (Supplementary).—"That Item A. be reduced by £100."—(*Mr. J. Morley.*)	60	169	230	B. M.	
18	" "	——— "That Item A. be reduced by 1,000*l.*"—(*Capt. Norton.*)	53	121	175	B. M.	
19	" "	——— "That the Item for Warlike Stores be omitted."—(*Mr. Labouchere.*)	68	152	221	B. M.	
20	" "	——— "That the Item for Works, &c., be reduced by 100*l.*"—(*Mr. Weir.*)	67	145	213	B. M.	
22	" 27	——— £256,000 for Uganda and Central and East Africa.—"That Item A. be reduced by 100*l.*—(*Sir C. Dilke.*)	68	187	256	B. M.	
23	" "	——— "That Item C. be reduced by 100*l.*—(*Sir C. Dilke.*)	57	147	205	B. M.	
28	Mar. 3	——— £184,853 Number of Land Forces.—"That 180,153 be employed."—(*Mr. Labouchere.*)	56	190	247	B. M.	
29	" "	——— "That 184,273 be employed."—(*Col. Welby.*)	54	112	167	B. M.	
30	" "	——— Original Question, "That the Question be now put."—(*Mr. Balfour.*)	134	37	172	B. M.	
38	" "	——— £139,425 for Colonial Services (Supplementary).—"That Item B. be omitted.—(*Mr. Weir.*)	51	228	280	B. M.	
40	" 13	——— 110,640 Men and Boys for Navy—"That 106,640 be employed."—(*Mr. Labouchere.*)	21	149	171	B. M.	
42	" 14	——— £6,509,000 for Pay, &c., of Army.—"That Item I. be reduced by 100*l.*"—(*Mr. Weir.*)	58	163	222	B. M.	
45	" 16	——— 110,640 Men and Boys for Navy.—"That 110,140 be employed." (*Mr. Steadman.*)	51	155	207	B. M.	
47	" 17	——— £6,509,000 for Pay, &c., of Army.—"That 6,508,800*l.* be granted."—(*Mr. Warner.*)	81	172	254	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:						
48	Mar. 17	Supply.—(In Committee)—*cont.*—"That 6,508,700*l.* be granted."—(*Mr. Caldwell.*)	43	125	169	B. M.	
49	" "	——— "That 6,508,750*l.* be granted." —(*Mr. Warner.*)	40	120	161	B. M.	
50	" "	——— £1,555,000 for Retired Pay, &c.—"That the Chairman do report Progress."—(*Mr. Buchanan.*)	34	109	144	—	A. M.
51	" "	——— "That 1,551,000*l.* be granted." —(*Mr. Warner.*)	29	101	131	—	A. M.
52	" "	——— Mr. William Allen moved "That the Chairman do report Progress, and ask leave to sit again"; but the Chairman, being of opinion that the Motion was an abuse of the Rules of the House, put the Question thereupon forthwith.	24	99	124	—	A. M.
55	" 20	——— £14,781,000 for Civil Services Vote on Account.—"That the Question be now put."—(*Mr. Balfour.*)	138	35	174	—	A. M.
56	" "	——— Question put - - - -	138	34	173	—	A. M.
71	Apr. 10	——— £33,000 for Royal Palaces.—"That 32,900*l.* be granted."—(*Mr. Caldwell.*)	48	144	193	B. M.	
72	" "	——— £79,000 for Royal Parks.—"That 78,900*l.* be granted."—(*Mr. Goddard.*)	33	114	148	B. M.	
75	" 14	——— £795,100 for Naval Works.—"That Item C. be reduced by 9000*l.*" (*Mr. Buchanan.*)	67	169	237	B. M.	
76	" "	——— £1,606,700 for Victualling and Clothing.—"That Item B. be reduced by 100*l.*"—(*Mr. A. Norton.*)	44	123	168	B. M.	
77	" "	——— £12,200 for Martial Law.—"That 12,100*l.* be granted."—(*Mr. Caldwell.*)	32	104	137	B. M.	
88	" 21	——— £1,211,900 for Works, Buildings, &c. (Army).—"That Item N. be reduced by 22,000*l.*"—(*Mr. Buchanan.*)	82	152	235	B. M.	
89	" "	——— £2,531,000 for Warlike Stores, &c.—"That 2,526,000*l.* be granted."—(*Mr. Weir.*)	55	132	188	B. M.	
90	" "	——— £305,800 for Medical Establishments.—"That 305,700*l.* be granted." (*Capt. Norton.*).	41	104	146	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
107	1899: Apr. 28	Supply. — (In Committee) — *cont.* — £5,153,986 for Public Education.— "That Item A. be reduced by 1000*l.*" —(*Mr. H. Lewis.*)	73	157	231	B. M.	
108	" "	——— Original Question proposed. "That the Question be now put."—(*Mr. Balfour.*)	155	65	221	B. M.	
118	May 5	——— £133,098 for Board of Trade. "That Item A. be reduced by 100*l.*" —(*Mr. Maddison.*)	83	128	212	B. M.	
119	" "	———Original Question. "That the Question be now put."—(*Mr. Balfour.*)	136	57	194	B. M.	
166	June 1	——— £5,552,885 for Post Office.— "That Item A. be reduced by 100*l.*"—(*Mr. Steadman.*)	109	160	270	B. M.	
167	" "	——— £496,600 for Customs Department.—"That Item B. be reduced by 100*l.*"—(*Mr. Gray.*)	59	92	152	B. M.	
168	" 2	——— £132,732 for Local Government Board.—"That Item A. be reduced by 100*l.*"—(*Mr. Pickersgill.*)	61	192	254	B. M.	
194	" 16	——— £701,861 for Public Education (Scotland).—"That 701,411*l.* be granted."—(*Sir C. Cameron.*)	48	105	154	B. M.	
205	" 22	——— £39,895 for Law Charges (Ireland).—"That 29,895*l.* be granted."—(*Mr. Davitt.*)	97	149	247	B. M.	
170	" 5	——— £30,000 for Lord Kitchener of Khartoum.	395	53	449	B. M.	
228	July 7	——— £415,161 for Prisons.—"That 410,161*l.* be granted." — (*Sir C. Cameron.*)	77	214	292	B. M.	
229	" "	——— £96,868 for Home Office.— "That Item A. be reduced by 100*l.*"—(*Sir C. Dilke.*)	37	117	155	B. M.	
269	" 14	——— £8,858 for Secretary for Scotland.—"That Item A be reduced by 50*l.*"—(*Mr. Weir.*)	73	136	210	B. M.	
270	" "	——— £16,169 for Fishery Board (Scotland).—"That Item A be reduced by 100*l.*"—(*Mr. Weir.*)	20	82	103	B. M.	
291	" "	——— "That £15,969 be granted."—(*Mr. Caldwell.*)	28	74	103	B. M.	
291	" 21	——— £248,300 for War Office.— "That the Chairman do report Progress."—(*Mr. Balfour.*)	70	8	79	—	A. M

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
321	1899: July 31	Supply.—(In Committee)—*cont.*—£23,175 for Temporary Commissions.—"That 23,075*l.* be granted."—(*Mr. H. Lewis*).	51	116	168	B. M.	
337	Aug. 3	——— £106,030 for British Museum	138	53	192	B. M.	
338	" "	——— £701,861 for Public Education, Scotland.—"That 700,861*l.* be granted."—(*Sir C. Cameron.*)	68	143	212	B. M.	
339	" "	——— £2,450 for Queen's Colleges, Ireland.	171	28	200	B. M.	
340	" "	——— £277,335 for Diplomatic Services.—"That 277,135*l.* be granted."—(*Sir C. Dilke.*)	82	176	259	B. M.	
341	" "	——— £154,463 for Uganda, &c.	208	71	280	B. M.	
342	" "	——— £1000 for Cyprus.	198	80	279	B. M.	
343	" "	——— £36,241 for Telegraph Companies.	199	86	286	B. M.	
344	" "	——— £130,537 for Survey of United Kingdom.	209	78	288	B. M.	
345	" "	——— £147,641 for Public Buildings, Ireland.	198	83	282	B. M	
346	" "	——— £6,099 for House of Lords Officers.	200	83	284	B. M.	
347	" "	——— £96,868 for Home Office	206	76	283	B. M.	
348	" "	——— £49,482 for Foreign Office	199	79	279	B. M.	
349	" "	——— £28,919 for Board of Agriculture.	198	79	278	B. M.	
350	" "	——— £132,732 for Local Government Board.	198	74	273	B. M.	
351	" "	——— £13,000 for Secret Service	203	73	277	B. M.	
352	" "	——— £28,782 for Chief Secretary, Ireland.	195	77	273	B. M.	
353	" "	——— £71,777 for Supreme Court of Judicature, Ireland.	190	71	262	—	A. M.
354	" "	——— £84,484 for Irish Land Commission.	188	68	257	—	A. M.
355	" "	——— £750,900 for Constabulary, Ireland.	180	66	247	—	A. M.
356	" "	——— £10,928 for Miscellaneous Expenses.	182	62	245	—	A. M.
357	" "	——— £248,300 for War Office	182	59	242	—	A. M

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
59	1899: March 20	Supply.—(Report.)—£6,509,000 for Pay &c. of Army.—Amendment proposed to leave out "6,509,000*l.*" and insert "6,508,000.," — (*Mr. Weir*, — instead thereof. — Question put, "That '6,509,000*l.*' stand part of the said Resolution."	135	30	166	—	A. M.
60	,, ,,	——— "That the House doth agree with the Committee on the said Resolution."	135	30	166	—	A. M.
61	,, ,,	——— £1,555,000 for Retired Pay, &c.—Amendment proposed to leave out "1,555,000*l.*" and insert "1,550,500*l.*" —(*Dr. Clark*),—instead thereof.—Question put, "That '1,555,000*l.*' stand part of the said Resolution."	135	30	166	—	A. M.
62	,, ,,	——— "That this House doth agree with the Committee in the said Resolution."	135	30	166	—	A. M.
63	,, ,,	——— £1,325,500*l.* for Chelsea, &c., Hospitals.—Amendment proposed to leave out "1,325,500*l.*" and insert "1,325,100*l.*"—(*Mr. Weir*),—instead thereof. — Question put, "That '1,325,500*l.*' stand part of the said Resolution."	135	29	165	—	A. M.
64	,, ,,	——— £183,700 for Superannuation Allowances, &c.—Amendment proposed to leave out "183,700*l.*" and insert "179,000*l.*"—(*Mr. Caldwell*),—instead thereof.—Question put, "That '183,700*l.*' stand part of the said Resolution."	136	28	165	—	A. M.
65	,, ,,	——— "That this House doth agree with the Committee in the said Resolution."	131	29	161	—	A. M.
67	,, 21	——— £14,781,000 for Civil Services Vote on Account.—Amendment proposed to leave out "14,781,000*l.*" and insert "14,780,900*l.*"—(*Mr. Havelock Wilson*),—instead thereof.—Question put, "That 14,781,000*l.* stand part of the Resolution."	141	33	175	—	A. M.
68	,, ,,	——— "That this House doth agree with the Committee in the said Resolution."	136	34	171	—	A. M.
96	April 24	——— £1,211,900 for Works, &c. (Army).—Amendment proposed to leave out "1,211,900*l.*" and insert "1,191,900*l.*"—(*Mr. Dillon*),—instead thereof. — Question put, "That '1,211,900*l.*,' stand part of the Resolution."	105	24	130	—	A. M.

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
143	1899: May 12	Supply.—(Report.)—*cont.*— £133,098 for Board of Trade.—Amendment proposed to leave out "133,098*l.*" and insert "132,998*l.*" — (*Mr. Weir*), — instead thereof. — Question put, "That '133,098*l.*' stand part of the Resolution."	134	35	170	—	A. M.
358	Aug. 4	——— £381,793 for Science and Art Department.—Amendment proposed to leave out "381,793*l.*" and insert "381,693*l.*"—(*Mr. Channing*).—Question put, "That '381,793*l.*' stand part of the Resolution."	101	38	140	B. M.	
9	,, ,,	——— £154,463 for Uganda, &c.—Amendment proposed, to leave out "154,463*l.*" and insert "154,263*l.*"—(*Sir Charles Dilke*).—Question put, "That '154,463*l.*' stand part of the Resolution."	105	49	155	B. M.	
360	,, ,,	——— £6,099 for House of Lords Officers.—"That this House doth agree with the Committee in the said Resolution."	106	43	150	B. M.	
361	,, ,,	——— £31,405 for Colonial Office.—Amendment proposed, to leave out "31,405*l.*" and insert "31,305*l.*"—(*Mr. Hedderwick.*)—Question put, "That '31,405*l.*' stand part of the Resolution."	120	31	152	B. M.	
294	July 24	Telegraphs (Telephonic Communication, &c.) Bill.—Read.—"That the Bill be now considered."—Amendment proposed to leave out the word "now," and at the end of the Question to add the words "upon this day three months."—(*Captain Sinclair.*)—Question put, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question."	173	43	217	B. M.	
295	,, ,,	——— As amended considered. — Page 1, line 5.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Buchanan.*)	210	34	245	B. M.	
297	,, 25	——— Page 2, line 24.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Hanbury.*)	153	29	183	B. M.	
298	,, ,,	——— Page 2, line 40.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Buchanan.*)	64	148	213	B. M.	
299	,, ,,	——— Page 2, line 40.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Lloyd-George.*)	137	47	185	B. M.	
300	,, ,,	——— Page 3, line 2.—Amendment. —(*Sir J. Woodhouse.*)	140	29	170	—	A. M.
301	,, ,	———Page 3, line 8. — Amendment. —(*Captain Sinclair.*)	110	40	151	—	A. M.

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:						
302	July 25	Telegraphs (Telephonic Communication, &c.) Bill.—*cont.*— Page 3, line 8.—Amendment.—(*Dr. Clark.*)	105	35	141	—	A. M.
303	" "	———— Page 3, line 19.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Hanbury.*)—"That the Debate be now adjourned." — (*Mr. T. P. O'Connor.*)	92	110	140	—	A. M.
304	" "	———— Page 3, line 24.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Hanbury.*)	103	127	131	—	A. M.
320	" 31	"That the Bill be now read the third time."—Amendment proposed to leave out the word "now," and at the end of the Question to add the words "upon this day three months."—(*Sir James Joicey.*)—Question put, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question."	134	31	166	B. M.	
141	May 12	Tithe Rent-charge (Ireland). — "That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Law relating to Tithe Rent-charge in Ireland."—(*Mr. Gerald Balfour.*) — And, the Motion being opposed, after a brief explanatory statement from the Member who made the Motion and from a Member who opposed it, Mr. Speaker put the Question in pursuance of Standing Order 16.	207	115	323	B. M.	
203	June 22	Tithe Rent-charge (Rates).—"That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Law with respect to the Payment of Rates on Tithe Rent-charge attached to a Benefice."—(*Mr. Long.*)—Mr. Speaker, in pursuance of Standing Order 16, after permitting a brief explanatory statement from a Member who moved and a Member who opposed the Motion respectively, put the Question, "That the Debate be now adjourned."	164	245	410	B. M.	
204	" "	———— Original Question put - -	249	171	421	B. M.	
210	" 29	Tithe Rent-charge (Rates) Bill.—"That the Bill be now read a second time."—Amendment proposed to leave out the word "now," and at the end of the Question to add the words "upon this day three months."—(*Mr. Asquith.*)—Question put, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question."	316	178	495	—	A. M.
230	July 10	———— (In Committee.)—Clause 1.—Amendment.—(*Mr. Lloyd-George.*)	157	253	411	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included)	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:						
231	July 10	Tithe Rent-charge (Rates) Bill (In Committee) — *cont.* — Clause 1. — Amendment.—(*Mr. Nussey.*)	100	183	284	B. M.	
232	" "	——— Clause 1. — Amendment. — (*Mr. Lambert.*)	153	266	420	B. M.	
233	" "	——— Clause 1. — Amendment. — (*Mr. David Thomas.*)—"That the Question be now put."—(*Mr. Long.*)	251	137	389	B. M.	
234	" "	——— Question put - - - -	245	136	382	—	A. M.
235	" 11	——— Amendment.— (*Mr. Samuel Evans.*)—"That the Question be now put."—(*Mr. Balfour.*)	260	162	423	B. M.	
236	" "	——— Question put - - - -	167	264	432	B. M.	
237	" "	——— Amendment.—(*Mr. Atherley Jones.*)—"That the Question be now put."—(*Mr. Balfour.*)	210	123	334	B. M.	
238	" "	——— Question put - - -	100	220	321	B. M.	
239	" 12	——— "That the Question 'That the words of the Clause "shall be liable to pay only" stand part of the Clause,' be now put."—(*Mr. Balfour.*)	224	137	362	B. M.	
240	" "	——— Question put - - - -	236	147	384	B. M.	
241	" "	——— Amendment. — (*Mr. David Thomas.*)	230	127	358	B. M.	
242	" "	——— And, it being after Midnight, the Chairman proceeded to interrupt the Business.—Whereupon *Mr. Balfour* rose in his place and claimed to move "That the Question 'That the words of the Clause to the word "and," in line 8, stand part of the Clause' be now put."—Question put, "That the Question 'That the words of the Clause to the word "and" in line 8, stand part of the Clause' be now put."	226	106	333	—	A. M
243	" "	——— Question put - - - -	226	102	329	—	A. M.
244	" "	——— Amendment. — (*Mr. Lionel Holland.*)	259	159	419	B. M.	
245	" "	——— Amendment.—(*Mr. C. Warner.*)—"That the Question be now put."—(*Mr. Balfour.*)	272	150	423	B. M.	
246	" "	——— Question put - - -	149	273	423	B. M.	

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued*.

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:						
247	July 12	Tithe Rent-charge (Rates) Bill (In Committe). — *cont.* — And, it being after half-past five of the clock, the Chairman proceeded to interrupt the Business. — Whereupon *Mr. Balfour* rose in his place, and claimed to move, "That the Question 'That Clause 1 stand part of the Bill,' be now put." — Question put, "That the Question 'That Clause 1 stand part of the Bill,' be now put."	268	153	422	B. M.	
248	" "	——— Question put - - - -	261	153	415	B. M.	
250	" 13	——— Clause 2. — Amendment. — (*Mr. E. Robertson.*) — "That the Question be now put."—(*Mr. Long.*)	252	175	428	B. M.	
251	" "	——— Question put - - - -	176	252	429	B. M.	
252	" "	——— Amendment. — (*Mr. H. Roberts.*)	230	154	385	B. M.	
253	" "	——— Amendment. — (*Mr. David Thomas.*)—"That the Question be now put."—(*Mr. Balfour.*)	189	109	299	B. M.	
254	" "	——— Question put - - - -	186	113	300	B. M.	
255	" "	——— That the Question "That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill" be now put.—(*Mr. Balfour.*)	186	99	286	B. M.	
256	" "	——— Question put - - - -	186	103	290	B. M.	
257	July 13	——— Clause 3. — Amendment. — (*Mr. Dalziel.*)	107	177	285	B. M.	
258	" "	——— That Clause 3 stand part of the Bill	186	120	307	B. M.	
259	" "	——— Clause 4. — Amendment.— (*Mr. H. Lewis.*)	246	150	397	B. M.	
260	" "	——— Clause 4. — Amendment.— (*Mr. D. Thomas.*)	151	269	421	B. M.	
261	" "	——— Clause 4. — Amendment.— (*Mr. D. Thomas.*)	276	154	431	B. M.	
262	" "	——— That Clause 4 stand part of the Bill.	272	157	430	B. M.	
263	" "	——— New Clause (Extent of Act). —(*Mr. H. Lewis.*)	122	235	358	—	A. M.
264	" "	——— "That the Chairman do report progress."—(*Mr. Dalziel.*)	109	218	328	—	A. M.

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Divisions on Public Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:						
265	July 13	Tithe Rent-charge (Rates) Bill (In Committee)—*cont.*—Amount of payment under Act in respect of any tithe rent-charge to be certified by Inland Revenue Commissi- ners to the council of the county borough or administrative county wherein the rent-charge arises.)—(*Mr. Humphreys-Owen.*)—"That the Clause be read a second time."—Mr. Walter Long rose in his place, and claimed to move, "That the Question be now put."—Question put, "That the Question be now put."	204	99	304	—	A. M.
266	,, ,,	——— Question put - - -	99	204	304	—	A. M.
267	,, ,,	——— Provision as to sequestration benefices.—(*Mr. S. Evans.*)	99	203	303	—	A. M.
268	,, ,,	——— "That the Chairman do report the Bill without Amendment to the House."	191	96	288	—	A. M.
285	,, 20	——— "That the Bill be now read a third time."—Amendment proposed, to leave out the word 'now' in order to insert at the end of the Question the words 'upon this day Three Months.'"—Question put, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question."	184	119	304	B. M.	
57	Mar. 20	Ways and Means.—In Committee.—"That, towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the service of the years ending on the 31st day of March 1898 and 1899, the sum of 1,860,115*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.* be granted out of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom."—(*Mr. Hanbury.*)	138	29	168	—	A. M.
58	,, ,,	——— "That, towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the service of the year ending on the 31st day of March 1900, the sum of 29,596,900*l.*, be granted out of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom."—(*Mr. Hanbury.*)	137	29	167	—	A. M.
177	June 7	Wine and Beerhouse Acts Amendment Bill.—"That the Bill be now read a second time."—Amendment proposed, to leave out the word "now," and at the end of the Question to add the words "upon this day Three Months."—(*Mr. Tomlinson.*)—Question put, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question."	140	185	326	B. M.	

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DIVISIONS ON PRIVATE BUSINESS.

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:						
188	June 13	Dublin Corporation Bill.—"That the Bill be now considered."—Amendment proposed, to leave out the word "now," and at the end of the question to add the words "upon this day Three Months."—(*Mr. Carson.*)—Question put, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question."	293	131	425	B. M.	
322	Aug. 1	————Lords Amendments *considered.*—Preamble, page 2, line 3, "That this House doth disagree with the Lords in the said Amendment."—(*Mr. T. M. Healy.*)	162	54	217	B. M.	
149	May 12	East London Water Bill.—As amended, considered.—New Clause (Provision in case of future purchase of undertaking.—(*Mr. J. Stuart.*)	75	187	263	B. M.	
133	„ 11	Gas Light and Coke Company Bill.—"That the Bill be now read the third time."—Debate arising.—"That the Debate be now adjourned."—(*Mr Pickersgill.*)	123	168	292	B. M.	
134	„ „	Original Question put - - - -	187	116	304	B. M.	
26	Mar. 3	General Power Distributing Company (suspended) Bill.—"That the Bill be now read a second time."—Amendment proposed, to leave out the word "now," and at the end of the Question to add the words "upon this day six months."—(*Mr. Stuart-Wortley.*)—Question proposed, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question."—Debate arising; "That the Debate be now adjourned."—(*Mr. Galloway.*)—The House divided.—The Tellers reported the numbers Ayes 149, Noes, 149.—Whereupon Mr. Sydney Gedge, Member for Walsall, came to the Table and stated that he had not been counted. He had been in the No Lobby, but when he reached the door the Tellers had left. The Speaker called the Tellers to the Table, and asked if they had any observation to make on the claim of the honourable Member to record his vote; and on their intimating that they had none, the Speaker directed the Clerk to add his vote to the Noes, and thereupon the Speaker declared the numbers Ayes 149, Noes 150.	151	152	304	B. M.	
27	„ „	That the word "now" stand part of the Question.	134	166	301	B. M.	

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Divisions on Private Business—*continued.*

Number of the Printed Division Lists.	DATE.	SUBJECT OF THE DIVISION.	Ayes (Tellers included).	Noes (Tellers included).	Aggregate Number of Members in the House (Speaker or Chairman included).	Before Midnight.	After Midnight.
	1899:						
187	June 13	Godalming Corporation Water Bill.—"That the Order for the consideration of the Bill, as amended, be deferred till Thursday next."—(*Dr. Farquharson.*)	170	36	207	B. M.	
200	„ 20	Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 14) Bill.—"That the Order for the committal of the Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 14) Bill be read, and discharged, and that the Bill be committed to the Police and Sanitary Committee."—(*Mr. Lloyd-George.*)	109	202	312	B. M.	
66	Mar. 21	London Water (Welsh Reservoirs and Works) Bill.—"That the Bill be now read a second time."—Amendment proposed, to leave out from the word "That," to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "it is inexpedient that the Bill be read a second time before the Royal Commission on London Water Supply has presented its report"—(*Mr. Whitmore*),—instead thereof.—Question put, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question."	132	208	341	B. M.	
41	Mar. 14	South Eastern and London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Companies Bill.—"That the Bill be now read a second time."—Amendment proposed, to leave out the word "now," and at the end of the Question to add the words "upon this day six months."—(*Mr Pickersgill.*)—Question put, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question."	290	84	375	B. M.	

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DIVISIONS, SESSION 1899.

Number.	SUBJECT OF DEBATE.	Vol. of "Debates."	Column.	Page in Sessional Vol. of Division Lists.
21	Adjournment (for discussing matter of urgency) - - -	67	641	65
156	Do. do. - - -	71	959	385
165	Do. do. - - -	72	97	405
94	Aged Deserving Poor, Appointment of Select Committee -	70	441	234
109	Do. Nomination of Committee - - -	70	979	269
110	Do. do. - - -	70	985	272
111	Do. do. - - -	70	989	275
292	Agriculture and Technical Instruction (Ireland) Bill, As amended, considered, page 1, line 10 - -	75	97	721
293	Do. do. page 1, line 20 - -	75	105	723
362	Do. Lords Amendments considered - -	76	49	861
78	Army Annual Bill, In Committee, Clause 4 - - - -	69	1241	194
79	Do. do. - - - -	69	1245	196
80	Do. do. - - - -	69	1247	198
15	Bishops (House of Lords) - - - - - - - -	67	171	50
206	Board of Education Bill, Committal - - - - -	73	689	511
323	Do. As amended, considered, page 2, line 1	75	1091	781
324	Do. do. page 2, line 12	75	1115	783
325	Do. do. - - - - -	75	1119	785
219	Board of Education (Salaries), In Committee - - -	73	1469	543
16	Business of the House (Supply) - - - - - - -	67	343	53
39	Do. (Government Business) - - -	68	569	107
54	Do. - - - - - - - - - - - - -	68	1341	143
195	Do. - - - - - - - - - - - - -	72	1527	481
91	Business of the House (London Government Bill and Finance Bill) - - - - - -	70	393	225
92	Do. - - - - - - - - - - - - -	70	399	228
93	Do. - - - - - - - - - - - - -	70	401	231
84	Business of the House (Metropolitan Water Companies Bill) -	69	1463	207
132	Church Discipline Bill - - - - - - - - - -	71	295	329
317	Colonial Loans Bill, Second Reading - - - - - -	75	875	769
318	Do. do. - - - - - -	75	877	771
329	Do. In Committee, Clause 1 - - - -	75	1163	791
330	Do. do. do. - - -	75	1169	793
331	Do. do. Clause 2 - - -	75	1173	795
332	Do. do. Schedule - - -	75	1183	797
333	Do. do. do. - - -	75	1185	799
334	Do. do. do. - - -	75	1193	801
335	Do. do. do. - - -	75	1197	803
131	Committees (Ascension Day) - - - - - - - -	71	229	327
24	County Courts Jurisdiction - - - - - - - -	67	855	73
86	Criminal Law and Procedure (Ireland) Act (1887) Repeal Bill	69	1603	211
188	Dublin Corporation Bill, As amended, to be considered - -	72	1049	459
322	Do. Lords Amendments considered -	75	1023	779
363	East India Revenue Accounts - - - - - - - -	76	217	863
141	East London Water Bill - - - - - - - - -	71	463	349
102	Ecclesiastical Assessments (Scotland) Bill - - - -	70	659	253
25	Education of Children Bill, Second Reading - - - -	67	991	75
160	Do. In Committee, Clause 1 - -	72	13	395
161	Do. do. do. - -	72	23	397
162	Do. do. do. - -	72	43	399
163	Do. do. do. - -	72	55	401
164	Do. do. do. Closure -	72	61	403
1	Elections - - - - - - - - - - - -	65	53	3

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Number.	SUBJECT OF DEBATE.	Vol. of "Debates."	Column.	Page in Sessional Vol. of Division Lists.
83	Elementary Education (Code of Regulations)	69	1417	204
296	Employment of Women (Overtime in Washing Bottles)	75	187	729
73	English Church Union	69	869	185
74	Evicted Tenants (Ireland) Re-instatement Bill	69	945	187
336	Expiring Laws Continuance Bill	75	1203	805
112	Finance Bill, Second Reading	70	1213	279
135	Do. In Committee, Clause 1	71	367	337
136	Do: do. Clause 2	71	391	340
137	Do. do. Clause 8	71	413	342
138	Do. do. Clause 13	71	417	344
139	Do. do. do.	71	423	346
142	Do. do. New Clause	71	527	354
182	Do. As amended, considered	72	733	446
133	Gas Light and Coke Company Bill	71	311	333
134	Do. do.	71	315	335
26	General Powers Distributing Company Bill	67	1201	79
27	Do. do.	67	1207	82
187	Godalming Corporation Water Bill	72	1003	457
319	High Court of Justice, Chancery Division (Additional Judge)	75	913	773
31	Houses of Lords and Commons Permanent Staff, nomination of Joint Committee	68	43	91
32	Do. do.	68	47	93
33	Do. do.	68	51	95
220	Improvement of Land Bill, Second Reading	73	1489	545
221	Do. do. Committal	73	1491	547
308	Do. do. Third Reading, Adjournment of Debate	75	427	751
315	Do. do. Recommitted, In Committee, Clause 1	75	609	765
316	Do. do. do. New Clause	75	613	767
193	Indian Tariff Act, 1899	72	1311	475
176	Intoxicating Liquors (Sunday Closing) Bill	72	565	430
113	Liquor Traffic Local Veto (Scotland) Bill	70	1271	283
200	Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 14) Bill	73	53	493
70	London Government Bill, Second Reading	69	463	177
95	Do. In Committee, Clause 1	70	485	237
97	Do. do. do.	70	547	241
98	Do. do. do.	70	561	244
99	Do. do. do.	70	581	246
100	Do. do. do.	70	587	248
101	Do. do. do.	70	593	250
103	Do. do. Clause 2	70	739	255
104	Do. do. do.	70	757	258
105	Do. do. do.	70	767	260
106	Do. do. do.	70	771	262
114	Do. do. do.	70	1345	287
115	Do. do. do.	70	1351	290
116	Do. do. do.	70	1364	292
117	Do. do. do.	70	1374	294
120	Do. do. do.	71	67	301
121	Do. do. do.	71	83	304
122	Do. do. do.	71	95	307
123	Do. do. Clause 3	71	105	309
124	Do. do. do.	71	107	311
125	Do. do. Clause 7	71	177	313
126	Do. do. do.	71	191	316
127	Do. do. do.	71	195	318
128	Do. do. do.	71	199	320
129	Do. do. Clause 9	71	213	322
130	Do. do. do.	71	219	324
144	Do. do. do.	71	613	359

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Number.	SUBJECT OF DEBATE.	Vol. of "Debates."	Column.	Page in Sessional Vol. of Division Lists.
145	London Government Bill, In Committee, Clause 10 - -	71	619	361
146	Do. do. do. - -	71	635	363
147	Do. do. do. - -	71	643	366
148	Do. do. do. - -	71	647	368
149	Do. do. Clause 13 - -	71	679	370
150	Do. do. do. - -	71	681	372
151	Do. do. Clause 14 - -	71	759	375
152	Do. do. Clause 23 - -	71	785	377
153	Do. do. do. - -	71	795	379
154	Do. do. New Clause (Alteration of wards) -	71	827	381
155	Do. do. (Borough Council provide supply of water) - - -	71	833	383
158	Do. do. Schedule - -	71	1003	390
159	Do. do. do. - - -	71	1009	392
171	Do. As amended, considered, page 2, line 2 -	72	475	419
172	Do. do. page 2, line 5 - -	72	483	422
173	Do. do. page 2, line 37 - -	72	493	425
174	Do. do. page 5, line 32 - -	72	507	427
181	Do. do. page 18, line 10 - -	72	713	444
223	Do. Lords Amendments considered, page 1, line 19 - -	74	67	551
224	Do. do. do. do. - -	74	71	554
66	London Water (Welsh Reservoirs and Works) Bill - -	68	1545	167
326	Manchester Canonries Bill, In Committee, Clause 1, Progress	75	1131	787
327	Do. do. do. - -	75	1135	788
328	Do. do. do. - -	75	1137	789
202	Military Works [Money], In Committee - - - -	73	219	499
225	Military Works Bill, Second Reading, Amendment, Closure	74	127	557
226	Do. do. Question put - -	74	129	559
227	Do. do. Main Question, Closure	74	133	561
312	Do. In Committee, Clause 1 - - -	75	579	759
313	Do. do. Schedule - - -	75	593	761
314	Do. do. do. - - -	75	601	763
85	National Expenditure - - - - - - - - -	69	1533	209
310	Naval Works Bill, In Committee, Clause 1 - - - -	75	543	755
311	Do. do. do. - - - -	75	559	757
43	Petroleum Bill - - - - - - - - - - -	68	911	119
34	Primary Education (England and Wales) - - - -	68	161	97
183	Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Bill, In Committee, Clause 1 - - -	72	947	449
184	Do. do. do. - - -	72	955	451
185	Do. do. do. - - -	72	965	453
186	Do. do. do. - - -	72	971	455
196	Do. do. Clause 2 - - -	72	1545	484
197	Do. do. Clause 4 - - -	72	1565	486
198	Do. do. do. - - -	72	1573	488
199	Do. do. Clause 5 - - -	72	1579	490
201	Do. do. Clause 7 - - -	73	89	495
218	Do. As amended, considered - - -	73	1455	541
7	Privilege, Interference of Peers in Elections - - - -	66	877	23
169	Do. - - - - - - - - - - - -	72	317	413
69	Queen Mary's School, Walsall (Scheme) - - - - -	69	281	175
2	Queen's Speech (Address in Answer) - - - - -	66	457	7
3	Do. - - - - - - - - - - - -	66	621	11
4	Do. - - - - - - - - - - - -	66	731	13
5	Do. - - - - - - - - - - - -	66	799	16
6	Do. - - - - - - - - - - - -	66	803	19
9	Do. - - - - - - - - - - - -	66	919	29

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Number.	SUBJECT OF DEBATE.	Vol. of "Debates."	Column.	Page in Sessional Vol. of Division Lists.
10	Queen's Speech (Address in Answer) - - - - - -	66	1051	33
11	Do. - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	66	1237	37
12	Do. - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	66	1519	41
13	Do. - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	66	1559	44
14	Do. - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	67	109	47
211	Royal Niger Company [Consolidated Fund] Progress - -	73	1309	525
212	Do. Closure - - - - - - - -	73	1325	528
213	Do. Question put - - - - - - -	73	1329	531
305	Do. In Committee, Clause 1 - - - - -	75	395	745
306	Do. do. do. - - - - -	75	405	747
307	Do. do. (Lands and Mineral rights of Company) - -	75	417	749
309	Do. Third Reading - - - - - - -	75	539	753
36	Sale of Food and Drugs Bill, Second Reading, Closure - -	68	401	101
37	Do. Question put - - - - - - - -	68	403	103
273	Do. As amended, considered. New Clause (Amendment as to wholesale dealers) -	74	1083	680
274	Do. do. (Standing Committee of reference on food standards) - - -	74	1099	682
275	Do. do. (Power of Inspectors) - - -	74	1111	684
276	Do. do. (Restriction as to colouring margarine to imitate butter) - -	74	1203	687
277	Do. do. (Colouring of milk or cream) -	74	1217	690
278	Do. do. page 1, line 7 - - - - -	74	1231	692
279	Do. do. page 1, line 10 - - - - -	74	1235	694
280	Do. do. page 2, line 3 - - - - -	74	1251	696
281	Do. do. page 2, line 28 - - - - -	74	1259	698
282	Do. do. page 4, line 1 - - - - -	74	1263	700
283	Do. do. page 4, line 29 - - - - -	74	1313	703
284	Do. do. page 5, line 16 - - - - -	74	1337	705
286	Do. do. page 5, line 17 - - - - -	74	1449	709
287	Do do. page 6, line 36 - - - - -	74	1477	711
288	Do. do. page 7, line 20 - - - - -	74	1489	713
289	Do. do. page 7, line 30 - - - - -	74	1491	715
290	Do. do. page 7, line 34 - - - - -	74	1495	717
222	Sea Fisheries Regulation (Scotland) Act (1895), Amendment Bill - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	73	1573	549
35	Service Franchise Bill, Second Reading - - - - - -	68	225	99
175	Do. In Committee, Clause 1 - - - - -	72	539	429
189	Do. As amended, considered, New clause (Application of owners &c., under Registration Acts) - -	72	1143	463
190	Do. do. Amendment, Ajournment of Debate - - - - -	72	1155	466
191	Do. do. Closure - - - - - -	72	1157	469
192	Do. do. Question put - - -	72	1161	472
8	Sittings of the House (Ash Wednesday) - - - - - -	66	881	26
44	Do. (Exemption from Standing Order) -	68	993	123
46	Do. do. do. -	68	1157	129
53	Do. do. do. -	68	1335	141
87	Do. do. do. -	70	65	215
157	Do. do. do. -	71	961	388
209	Do. do. do. -	73	1001	519
249	Do. do. do. -	74	711	623
272	Do. do. do. -	74	1035	677
81	Small Houses (Acquisition of Ownership) Bill, Second Reading	69	1389	199
82	Do. Committal - - - - - - - - -	69	1395	202
207	Do. As amended, considered, page 1, line 10 - -	73	919	513
208	Do. do. page 5, line 39 - -	73	933	516
214	Do. do. page 5, line 40 - -	73	1333	533
215	Do. do. page 6, line 1 - -	73	1337	535

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216	Small Houses (Acquisition of Ownership) Bill, as amended, considered, page 7, line 23	73	1351	537
217	Do. do. page 10, line 29	73	1361	539
178	Soudan Expedition (Thanks of the House)	72	669	435
179	Do. do.	72	689	438
180	Do. do.	72	693	441
41	South Eastern and London Chatham and Dover Railway Companies Bill	68	719	113
	Supply, In Committee :—			
17	Army, Supplementary	67	523	57
18	Do.	67	542	59
19	Do.	67	557	61
20	Do.	67	563	63
22	Uganda, Supplementary	67	733	68
23	Do.	67	745	70
28	Number of Land Forces	67	1257	84
29	Do.	67	1279	86
30	Do. Closure	67	1325	88
38	Colonial Service, Supplementary	68	477	105
40	Men and Boys for Navy	68	657	110
45	Do.	68	1101	126
42	Pay of Army	68	833	116
47	Do.	68	1185	131
48	Do.	68	1253	133
49	Do.	68	1259	135
50	Retired Pay	68	1269	137
51	Do.	68	1281	139
52	Do. Progress	68	1283	140
55	Do. Vote on Account, Closure	68	1461	145
56	Do. Question put	68	1463	147
71	Royal Palaces	69	743	181
72	Royal Parks	69	765	183
75	Naval Works	69	1179	189
76	Victualling and Clothing	69	1199	191
77	Martial Law	69	1209	193
88	Works and Buildings (Army)	70	271	219
89	Warlike Stores	70	301	221
90	Medical Establishments	70	313	223
107	Public Education	70	915	265
108	Do. Closure	70	917	267
118	Board of Trade	70	1466	297
119	Do. Closure	70	1500	299
166	Post Office	72	121	407
167	Customs	72	155	409
168	Local Government Board	72	217	411
194	Public Education (Scotland)	72	1443	479
205	Law Charges (Ireland)	73	353	509
170	Lord Kitchener of Khartoum	72	403	416
228	Prisons	74	201	563
229	Home Office	74	267	565
269	Secretary for Scotland	74	913	673
270	Fishery Board (Scotland)	74	949	675
271	Do.	74	953	676
291	War Office	74	1655	719
321	Temporary Commissions	75	953	777
337	British Museum	75	1317	807
338	Public Education, Scotland	75	1331	809
339	Queen's Colleges	75	1349	811
340	Diplomatic Services	75	1367	813
341	Uganda, &c.	75	1371	815
342	Cyprus	75	1373	817
343	Subsidies to Telegraph Companies	75	1377	819
344	Survey	75	1379	821
345	Public Buildings, Ireland	75	1383	823
346	House of Lords' Offices	75	1385	825

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347	Home Office	75	1387	827
348	Foreign Office	75	1391	829
349	Board of Agriculture	75	1393	831
350	Local Government Board	75	1397	833
351	Secret Service	75	1399	835
352	Chief Secretary, Ireland	75	1403	838
353	Supreme Court of Judicature, Ireland	75	1405	840
354	Irish Land Commission	75	1409	842
355	Constabulary, Ireland	75	1411	844
356	Miscellaneous Expenses	75	1415	846
357	War Office	75	1417	848
	Supply, Report :—			
59	Pay, &c. of Army	68	1473	153
60	Do.	68	1475	155
61	Retired Pay, &c.	68	1479	157
62	Do.	68	1481	159
63	Pensions and Non-Effective Charges	68	1487	161
64	Superannuation Allowances	68	1491	163
65	Do.	68	1493	165
67	Vote on Account	68	1680	170
68	Do.	68	1689	172
96	Do.	70	495	239
143	Board of Trade	71	557	356
358	Science and Art Department	75	1507	851
359	Uganda, &c.	75	1517	853
360	House of Lords Offices	75	1535	855
361	Colonial Office	75	1565	858
294	Telegraphs (Telephonic Communication, &c.) Bill, As amended, to be considered	75	149	725
295	Do. As amended, considered, page 1, line 5	75	163	727
297	Do. do. page 2, line 24	75	303	731
298	Do. do. page 2, line 40	75	333	733
299	Do. do. do.	75	337	735
300	Do. do. page 3, line 2	75	341	737
301	Do. do. page 3, line 8	75	349	739
302	Do. do. do.	75	353	741
303	Do. do. page 3, line 19	75	355	742
304	Do. do. page 3, line 24	75	359	744
320	Do. Third Reading	75	931	745
141	Tithe Rent-charge (Ireland) Bill	71	499	351
203	Tithe Rent-charge (Rates) Bill, Leave to bring in, Adjournment	73	297	503
204	Do.	73	301	506
210	Do. Second Reading	73	1101	522
230	Do. In Committee, Clause 1	74	371	567
231	Do. do. do.	74	379	570
232	Do. do. do.	74	401	572
233	Do. do. do. Closure	74	415	575
234	Do. do. do.	74	419	578
235	Do. do. do. Closure	74	511	581
236	Do. do. do.	74	515	584
237	Do. do. do. Closure	74	545	587
238	Do. do. do.	74	549	590
239	Do. do. do. Closure as to certain words	74	553	592
240	Do. do. do.	74	555	595
241	Do. do. do.	74	573	598
242	Do. do. do. Closure as to certain words	74	577	601
243	Do. do. do.	74	581	604
244	Do do. do.	74	637	607

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246	Do. do. do. - - -	74	647	613
247	Do. do. do. Closure as to Clause 1	74	651	616
248	Do. do. do. - - -	74	655	619
250	Do. do Clause 2 Closure -	74	735	626
251	Do. do. do. - - -	74	739	629
252	Do. do. do. - - -	74	751	632
253	Do. do. do. Closure -	74	759	635
254	Do. do. do. - - -	74	763	637
255	Do. do. do. Closure as to Clause 2	74	765	639
256	Do. do. do. - - -	74	769	641
257	Do. do. Clause 3 - -	74	777	643
258	Do. do. do. - - -	74	779	645
259	Do. do. Clause 4 - -	74	791	647
260	Do. do. do. - - -	74	799	650
261	Do. do. do. - - -	74	805	653
262	Do. do. do. - - -	74	809	656
263	Do. do. New Clause (Extension of Act) - - -	74	829	659
264	Do. do. Progress - - -	74	835	662
265	Do. do. New Clause (Amount of payment to be certified) Closure - - -	74	845	665
266	Do. do. do.	74	847	667
267	Do. do. New Clause (Provisions as to sequestrated benefices) - - -	74	853	669
268	Do. Bill to be reported - - - -	74	857	671
285	Do. Third reading - - - -	74	1443	707
57	Ways and Means, In Committee (Grant) - - - -	68	1465	149
58	Do. do. - - - - - -	68	1467	151
177	Wine and Beerhouse Acts, Amendment Bill - - - -	72	587	432

Names of Minorities taken down in House under Standing Order 30 (Divisions frivolously claimed) :—

—	Supply—Scotland—Fisheries - - - - - - - -	75	1402	837
—	„ Home Office - - - - - - - - -	75	1544	857

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SELECT COMMITTEES.

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 1 August 1899;—*for*,

RETURN "of the Number of SELECT COMMITTEES appointed in the Session of 1899, including the STANDING COMMITTEES and the COURT OF REFEREES; the Subjects of Inquiry; the Names of the Members appointed to serve on each, and of the Chairman of each; the Number of Days each Committee Met, and the Number of Days each Member Attended; the Total Expense of the Attendance of Witnesses at each Select Committee, and the Name of the Member who Moved for such Select Committee; also, the Total Number of MEMBERS who Served on SELECT COMMITTEES (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper, No. 0.279, of Session 1898)."—(*Dr. Farquharson.*)

Note.—*For Return relating to Select Committees nominated partly by the House and partly by the Committee of Selection, for the consideration of Bills referred to them*, see *under Return "Private Bills."*

ALPHABETICAL LIST of the NAMES of MEMBERS appointed to serve on SELECT COMMITTEES in the Session of 1899.

SESSION 1899.

NAMES OF MEMBERS.	Committees on which each Member was appointed.
A.	
Abraham, Mr. William	9.
Acland-Hood, Sir A.	3.
Anson, Sir W.	15.
Anstruther, Mr.	1.
Archdale, Mr.	16.
Arnold-Forster, Mr.	16.
Ascroft, Mr.	16.
Asquith, Mr.	15.
Atherley-Jones, Mr.	15.
Atkinson, Mr.	4. 15. 16.
Attorney General, Mr. *See* Webster, Sir R.	—
Attorney General for Ireland. *See* Mr. Atkinson.	—
Austin, Mr. M.	16.
B.	
Bailey, Mr. James	8.
Bainbridge, Mr.	15.
Baird, Mr.	16.
Balcarres, Lord	16.
Baldwin, Mr.	9, 16.
Balfour, Mr. G.	16.
Balfour, Mr. J. B.	4. 15.
Banbury, Mr.	9.
Barlow, Mr.	15.
Barry, Mr. E.	12.
Bartley, Mr.	15. 16.
Barton, Mr. Dunbar	4. 15. 16.
Beach, Mr.	15.
Beckett, Mr.	16.
Begg, Mr. F.	16.
Bethell, Commander	15.
Biddulph, Mr.	12.
Birrell, Mr.	3. 15.
Bonham-Carter, Mr. (Referee)	13.
Boscawen, Mr. Griffith	16.
Bowles, Major	5.
Bowles, Mr. Gibson	11.
Broadhurst, Mr.	8. 16.
Bryce, Mr.	15. 16.
Brymer, Mr.	12.
Buchanan, Mr.	11. 15. 17.
Burns, Mr. John	16.
Burt, Mr.	16.
Butcher, Mr.	15.
Buxton, Mr. Sydney	14.
C.	
Cameron, Mr. Robert	5.
Cameron, Sir Charles	15. 16.
Campbell, Mr. J. H.	16.
Carew, Mr.	15.
Carmichael, Sir Thomas G.	12.
Cavendish, Mr. Richard	8.
Cavendish, Mr. Victor	3. 11. 16.
Cawley, Mr.	16.

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NAMES OF MEMBERS.	Committees on which each Member was appointed.
Cayzer, Sir Charles	16.
Cecil, Mr. E.	15.
Chaloner, Captain	16.
Chamberlain, Mr.	15.
Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. *See* Hicks-Beach, Sir M.	—
Channing, Mr.	15. 16.
Chaplin, Mr.	1.
Clancy, Mr.	6.
Clark, Dr.	10. 15.
Cochrane, Mr.	8. 15.
Coddington, Sir William	17.
Coghill, Mr.	15.
Cohen, Mr.	9. 11. 16.
Collery, Mr.	16.
Collings, Mr. Jesse	5. 16.
Colomb, Sir J.	16.
Colston, Mr.	15.
Commins, Dr.	15.
Cooke, Mr. Radcliffe	15.
Corbett, Mr. Cameron	11. 15.
Cotton-Jodrell, Colonel	12.
Cranborne, Viscount	15.
Cripps, Mr.	1. 13. 15.
Curran, Mr. Thomas	8. 16.
D.	
Dalkeith, Lord	15.
Dalrymple, Sir Charles	12. 16.
Daly, Mr.	16.
Dalziel, Mr.	8.
Davenport, Mr. Bromley	15.
Davies, Sir Horatio	8.
Davitt, Mr.	1. 15. 16.
Digby, Mr. Wingfield	15.
Dilke, Sir Charles	7. 15.
Dillon, Mr.	15. 16.
Dixon-Hartland, Sir Frederick	9.
Donelan, Captain	16.
Doogan, Mr.	16.
Dorington, Sir John	14.
Doughty, Mr.	16.
Drage, Mr.	15. 16.
Duckworth, Mr.	11. 16.
Duncombe, Mr.	5. 8.
Dyke, Sir William Hart	14.
Egerton, Mr. de Tatton	6. 15.
Elliot, Mr. A.	15.
Ellis, Mr. John Edward	2. 7. 16. 17.
Esmonde, Sir Thomas	16. 17.
Evans, Mr. Samuel	15.
F.	
Fardell, Sir T. George	5. 15.
Farquharson, Dr.	10. 14.
Fergusson, Sir James	2. 15.
Finlay, Sir Robert (Solicitor-General).	4. 15. 16.
FitzGerald, Sir R. Penrose	16.
Fitzmaurice, Lord Edmond	1. 2. 16.
Flannery, Sir Fortescue	1.
Flynn, Mr.	15. 16.
Foster, Sir Walter	1. 15. 16.
Fowler, Sir Henry	16.
Fox, Dr.	10.
Fry, Mr. Lewis	15. 16.
G.	
Galloway, Mr.	10. 15. 16.
Gedge, Mr. Sydney	15. 16.
Gilliat, Mr.	9. 11. 16.
Gladstone, Mr.	15.
Goddard, Mr.	3. 11.
Godson, Sir F.	15.
Gold, Mr.	15.
Goldsworthy, General	8.
Gorst, Sir John	15.
Goulding, Mr.	15. 16.
Gourley, Sir Edward	16. 17.
Graham, Mr.	15.
Gray, Mr. Ernest	15.
Greene, Mr. H. D.	13. 15.
Gretton, Mr.	3.
H.	
Haldane, Mr.	15.
Halsey, Mr.	14. 17.
Hanbury, Mr.	7 11. 16.
Hanson, Sir Reginald	16.
Hardy, Mr. Laurence	2.
Harrington, Mr.	16.
Hayne, Mr. Seale	6. 15.
Healy, Mr. Maurice	13.
Healy, Mr. T. M.	15.
Heath, Mr.	5. 10.
Hedderwick, Mr.	1. 15.
Helder, Mr.	15.
Hemphill, Mr.	4. 15.
Hickman, Sir Alfred	10. 15. 16.
Hicks-Beach, Sir Michael	15. 16.
Hill, Sir Edward	16.
Hill, Mr. Staveley	15.
Hoare, Mr. Brodie	11.
Hoare, Mr. Samuel	1. 6.
Hobhouse, Mr. Henry	6. 10. 15. 16.
Holland, Mr. L.	1.
Houldsworth, Sir William	16.
Howell, Mr.	5.
Hozier, Mr.	15.
Hughes, Colonel	15.
Humphreys-Owen, Mr.	15. 17.
Hutton, Mr. J.	3.
J.	
Jacoby, Mr.	8.
Jameson, Major	16.
Jebb, Mr.	15.
Jeffreys, Mr.	6. 15. 16.
Jenkins, Sir John	15.
Johnson-Ferguson, Mr.	15.

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NAMES OF MEMBERS.	Committees on which each Member was appointed.
Johnstone, Mr. Heywood	13. 15. 16.
Joicey, Sir James	16.
Jones, Mr. Brynmor	9. 10. 13. 15. 16.
Jones, Mr. William	5. 15.
K.	
Kay-Shuttleworth, Sir U.	6. 15.
Kearley, Mr.	8. 16.
Kemp, Mr.	16.
Kennaway, Sir John	6.
Kenyon-Slaney, Colonel	12. 15.
Kilbride, Mr.	16.
Kimber, Mr.	15.
Knowles, Mr. Lees	15.
L.	
Lafone, Mr.	8.
Lambert, Mr.	15. 16.
Lawrence, Mr. W. F.	15.
Lawson, Mr. Grant	3. 11. 15. 16.
Lea, Sir Thomas	16.
Lecky, Mr.	1. 15.
Lees, Sir Elliott	16.
Leese, Sir Joseph	15.
Leigh, Mr. Chandos- (Referee)	13.
Leighton, Mr. Stanley	15.
Leng, Sir John	15. 16.
Lewis, Mr. Herbert	3. 11. 12. 15.
Llewellyn, Mr.	1. 16.
Lloyd-George, Mr.	1. 16.
Lockwood, Colonel	8. 15.
Loder, Mr.	15.
Logan, Mr.	15.
Long, Colonel	16.
Long, Mr. Walter	15. 16.
Lopes, Mr.	16.
Lorne, Marquess of	6.
Lord Advocate, The. *See* Murray, Mr. Graham.	—
Lough, Mr.	9. 16.
Lowles, Mr.	9. 15.
Lowther, Mr. J. W.	7. 13. 17.
Loyd, Mr. A. K.	1. 15.
Lubbock, Sir John	16. 17.
Luttrell, Mr.	11.
M.	
M'Arthur, Mr. Charles	16.
M'Carthy, Mr. Justin	14.
Macdona, Mr.	8.
MacDonnell, Dr.	16.
M'Iver, Sir Lewis	6.
M'Kenna, Mr.	15.
M'Killop, Mr. J.	—
Maclean, Mr.	16.
MacNeill, Mr. Swift	15.
Maddison, Mr.	15.
Malcolm, Mr.	5.
Maple, Sir B.	15.
Maxwell, Sir H.	15.
Maxwell, Sir J. S.	15.
Mellor, Mr.	13.
Meysey-Thompson, Sir Henry	12. 15
Milward, Colonel	3. 15.
Molloy, Mr.	6. 16.
Monk, Mr.	15.
Montague, Sir Samuel	16.
Moore, Mr. A.	16.
Moore, Mr. W.	16.
Morgan, Mr. Lloyd	15.
Morley, Mr. C.	12. 16.
Morton, Mr. Arthur	15.
Mount, Mr.	15. 17.
Mowbray, Sir John	17.
Murray, Mr. Graham (Lord Advocate).	4. 15.
N.	
Nicol, Mr.	9. 16.
Northcote, Sir Stafford	16.
Norton, Captain	15.
O.	
O'Connor, Mr. Arthur	2. 11.
O'Connor, Mr. T. P.	5. 12.
Oldroyd, Mr.	16.
O'Neill, Mr.	16.
P.	
Palmer, Mr.	5.
Parkes, Mr. E.	16.
Paulton, Mr.	3. 13.
Pease, Mr. Joseph A.	3.
Percy, Earl	3.
Philipps, Mr.	16.
Pickersgill, Mr.	9. 15.
Pirie, Mr.	9.
Powell, Sir Francis Sharp	10. 15.
Power, Mr. P. J.	8. 16.
Pretyman, Mr.	3.
Provand, Mr.	16.
Pryce-Jones, Colonel	15.
Pym, Mr.	5.
R.	
Rankin, Sir James	1. 9. 16.
Rasch, Major	15.
Reckitt, Mr. Harold	5.
Redmond, Mr. John	15. 16.
Redmond, Mr. William	1. 8. 17
Reid, Sir Robert	4. 15.
Renshaw, Mr.	15. 16.
Richardson, Sir Thomas	16.
Richardson, Mr. Joseph	5.
Ridley, Sir Matthew W.	15.

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NAMES OF MEMBERS.	Committees on which each Member was appointed.
Ritchie, Mr.	16.
Roberts, Mr. Bryn	15.
Robertson, Mr. Edmund	15.
Rollit, Sir Albert	10. 15. 16.
Round, Mr.	16.
Russell, Mr. T. W.	3. 10. 15. 16.
Rutherford, Mr.	15.
S.	
Samuel, Mr. J.	15.
Saunderson, Colonel	16.
Schwann, Mr.	10.
Scoble, Sir Andrew	9. 15.
Seton-Karr, Mr.	16.
Shaw, Mr. Thomas	16.
Shaw-Stewart, Mr.	15.
Sidebottom, Mr. T. H.	16.
Smith, Mr. A.	16.
Smith, Mr. Parker	13. 15.
Smith, Mr. Samuel	16.
Smith, Mr. W. F. D.	12.
Soames, Mr.	3.
Solicitor-General, Mr. *See* Sir R. Finlay.	—
Solicitor-General for Ireland. *See* Mr. Dunbar Barton.	—
Souttar, Mr.	15.
Spencer, Mr. Ernest	15.
Spicer, Mr. Albert	14.
Stanhope, Mr. Philip	14.
Stanley, Lord	8.
Steadman, Mr.	9.
Stevenson, Mr.	15.
Stewart, Sir Mark	14. 17.
Strachey, Mr.	16.
Strutt, Mr.	16.
Stuart, Mr. James	6. 16.
T.	
Talbot, Mr.	10. 15.
Tanner, Dr.	11.
Tennant, Mr.	16.
Thomas, Mr. A.	16.
Thornton, Mr.	11.
Tollemache, Mr.	12.
Tomlinson, Mr.	16.
Tully, Mr.	16.
U.	
Ure, Mr.	15.
V.	
Valentia, Viscount	8.
Vincent, Sir Howard	15.
W.	
Wallace, Mr. Robert (Perth)	15.
Walton, Mr. Lawson	4.
Warr, Mr.	15.
Webster, Sir Richard (Attorney-General).	4. 15. 16.
Webster, Mr. R. G.	16.
Wharton, Mr.	7. 14.
Whiteley, Mr. George	16.
Whitmore, Mr.	10. 17.
Williams, Colonel	15.
Wilson, Mr. Henry J.	10. 12.
Wilson, Mr. John (Durham)	16.
Wilson, Mr. John (Falkirk)	16.
Wodehouse, Mr.	4. 14.
Wolff, Mr.	16.
Woodall, Mr.	6.
Woodhouse, Sir James	15. 16.
Woods, Mr. Samuel	1. 15.
Wortley, Mr. Stuart	2. 15.
Wyndham-Quin, Major	5.
Y.	
Young, Mr.	16.
Yoxall, Mr.	15.

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SESSION 1899.

Subject of Inquiry, and Names of the Members who Moved for each Committee.	Names of Members appointed to Serve on each Committee and the Chairman of each.	Number of Days each Member attended.	Number of Days each Committee met.	Total Expense of Attendance of Witnesses.	REMARKS.
1.				£. s. d.	
Aged Deserving Poor -	- - - -	–	19	11 4 –	
Moved for by Sir William Walrond.	Chaplin, Mr., Chairman -	19			
	Anstruther, Mr. - - -	19			
	Cripps, Mr. - - - -	13			
	Davitt, Mr. - - - -	8			
	Fitzmaurice, Lord Edmond	19			
	Flannery, Sir Fortescue -	16			
	Foster, Sir Walter - -	13			
	Hedderwick, Mr. - -	18			
	Hoare, Mr. Samuel - -	16			
	Holland, Mr. Lionel - -	17			
	Lecky, Mr. - - - -	16			
	Llewellyn, Mr. - - -	16			
	Lloyd-George, Mr. - -	17			
	Loyd, Mr. A. K. - -	17			
	Rankin, Sir James - -	18			
	Redmond, Mr. William -	3			
	Woods, Mr. - - -	15			
2.					
Chairmen's Panel -	- - - -	–	4	Nil.	
Nominated by Committee of Selection.	Ellis, Mr. John Edward -	4			
	Fergusson, Sir James -	3			
	Fitzmaurice, Lord Edmond	4			
	Hardy, Mr. Laurence - -	2			
	O'Connor, Mr. Arthur, Chairman.	4			
	Wortley, Mr. Stuart - -	4			
3.					
Cottage Homes Bill -	- - - - - - -	–	12	21 10 8	
Moved for by Mr. John Hutton.	Russell, Mr. T. W., Chairman.	12			
	Acland-Hood, Sir A. - -	7			
	Birrell, Mr. - - -	7			
	Cavendish, Mr. Victor -	6			
	Goddard, Mr. - - -	11			
	Gretton, Mr. - - -	10			
	Hutton, Mr. John - -	12			
	Lawson, Mr. Grant - -	10			
	Lewis, Mr. Herbert - -	9			
	Milward, Colonel - -	11			
	Paulton, Mr. - - -	11			
	Pease, Mr. Joseph A. -	10			
	Percy, Earl - - - -	8			
	Pretyman, Mr. - - -	8			
	Soames, Mr. - - -	11			

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Subject of Inquiry, and Names of the Members who Moved for each Committee.	Names of Members appointed to Serve on each Committee and the Chairman of each.	Number of Days each Member attended.	Number of Days each Committee met.	Total Expense of Attendance of Witnesses.	REMARKS.
4.				£ s. d.	
Divorce Bills - - Moved for by Sir William Walrond.	- - - - - - -	–	4	- Nil.	
	Attorney-General, Mr., Chairman.	2			
	Attorney-General for Ireland, Mr.	0			
	Balfour, Mr. J. B. - -	0			
	Hemphill, Mr. - - -	1			
	Lawson Walton, Mr. - -	0			
	Lord Advocate, The - -	2	–	- -	Acted as Chairman once.
	Reid, Sir Robert - - -	0			
	Solicitor-General, Mr. -	4	–	- -	Acted as Chairman once.
	Wodehouse, Mr. - - -	4			
5.					
Fire Brigades - - Moved for by Mr. Pym.	- - - - - - -	-	14	89 15 7	
	Collings, Mr. Jesse, Chairman.	12			
	Bowles, Major - - -	11			
	Cameron, Mr. - - -	10			
	Duncombe, Mr. - - -	2			
	Fardell, Sir George - -	11			
	Heath, Mr. - - - -	4			
	Howell, Mr. - - -	7			
	Jones, Mr. William - -	0			
	Malcolm, Mr. - - -	11			
	O'Connor, Mr. T. P. - -	0			
	Palmer, Mr. - - -	10			
	Pym, Mr. - - - -	14		- -	Acted as Chairman twice.
	Reckitt, Mr. Harold - -	1			
	Richardson, Mr. - - -	8			
	Wyndham-Quin, Major -	14			
6.					
General Committee on Railway and Canal Bills. A Sessional Committee.	- - - - - - -	–	1	- Nil.	
	Kennaway, Sir John, Chairman.	1			
	Clancy, Mr. - - -	0			
	Egerton, Mr. Tatton - -	0			
	Hayne, Mr. Seale- - -	1			
	Hoare, Mr. Samuel - -	1			
	Hobhouse, Mr. Henry -	1			
	Jeffreys, M. - - - -	1			
	Kay-Shuttleworth, Sir U. -	1			
	Lorne, Marquis of - -	1			
	M'Iver, Sir Lewis - -	1			
	Molloy, Mr. - - -	1			
	Stuart, Mr. James - -	0			
	Woodall, Mr. - - -	0			
7.					
Houses of Lords and Commons Permanent Staff. Joint Committee, moved for by Sir William Walrond.	- - - - - - -	–	4	Nil.	
	Dilke, Sir Charles - -	4			
	Ellis, Mr. John . - -	4			
	Hanbury, Mr. - - -	3			
	Lowther, Mr. James William	2			
	Wharton, Mr. - - -	2			

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Subject of Inquiry, and Names of the Members who Moved for each Committee.	Names of Members appointed to Serve on each Committee and the Chairman of each.	Number of Days each Member attended.	Number of Days each Committee met.	Total Expense of Attendance of Witnesses.	REMARKS.
8.				£ s. d.	
Kitchen and Refreshment Rooms (House of Commons).	- - - - - - -	–	21	Nil.	
	Stanley, Lord, Chairman -	5	–	–	Discharged 19 April.
Moved for by Sir William Walrond.	Valentia, Viscount Chairman	14	–	–	Added 19 April.
	Bailey, Mr. James - -	9			
	Broadhurst, Mr. - - -	9			
	Cavendish, Mr. Richard -	1			
	Cochrane, Mr. - - -	6			
	Curran, Mr. Thomas - -	14			
	Dalziel, Mr. - - -	5			
	Davies, Sir Horatio - -	2			
	Duncombe, Mr. - - -	3			
	Goldsworthy, General -	18	–	–	Acted as Chairman twice.
	Jacoby, Mr. - - -	16			
	Kearlay, Mr. - - -	1			
	Lafone, Mr. - - -	11			
	Lockwood, Colonel - -	2			
	Macdona, Mr. - - -	12			
	Power, Mr. P. J. - - -	11			
	Redmond, Mr. William -	2			
9.					
Metropolitan Gas Companies.	- - - - - - -	–	18	Nil.	
	Rankin, Sir James, Chairman	18			
Moved for by Mr. Cohen.	Abraham, Mr. William -	0			
	Baldwin, Mr. - - -	10			
	Banbury, Mr. - - -	10			
	Cohen, Mr. - - - -	17			
	Dixon-Hartland, Sir Frederick.	9			
	Gilliatt, Mr. - - -	3			
	Jones, Mr. Brynmor - -	7			
	Lough, Mr. - - - -	14			
	Lowles, Mr. - - -	11			
	Nicol, Mr. - - - -	17			
	Pickersgill, Mr. - - -	8			
	Pirie, Mr. - - - -	10			
	Scoble, Sir Andrew - -	13			
	Steadman, Mr. - - -	15			
10.					
Public Health Acts Amendment Bill.	- - - - - - -	–	6	Nil.	
	Russell, Mr. T. W., Chairman	6			
Moved for by Sir William Walrond.	Clark, Dr. - - - -	4			
	Farquharson, Dr. - -	5			
	Fox, Dr. - - - -	4			
	Galloway, Mr. - - -	3			
	Heath, Mr. - - - -	4			
	Hickman, Sir Alfred - -	5			
	Hobhouse, Mr. - - -	5	–	–	Acted as Chairman once.
	Jones, Mr. Brynmor - -	3			
	Powell, Sir Francis Sharp -	6			
	Rollit, Sir Albert - -	3			
	Schwann, Mr. - - -	5			
	Talbot, Mr. J. G. - -	6			
	Whitmore, Mr. - - -	3			
	Wilson, Mr. Henry J. - -	2			

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Subject of Inquiry, and Names of the Members who Moved for each Committee.	Names of Members appointed to Serve on each Committee and the Chairman of each.	Number of Days each Member attend'ed.	Number of Days each Committee met.	Total Expense of Attendance of Witnesses.	REMARKS.
11.				£ s. d.	
Public Accounts - -	- - - - - - - -	–	10	Nil.	
Moved for under Standing Order 77.	O'Connor, Mr. Arthur, Chairman.	8			
	Bowles, Mr. Gibson - -	9			
	Buchanan, Mr. - - -	8	–	–	Acted as Chairman twice.
	Cavendish, Mr. Victor -	7			
	Cohen, Mr. - - - -	9			
	Corbett, Mr. Cameron -	2			
	Duckworth, Mr. - - -	8			
	Gilliat, Mr. - - - -	1			
	Goddard, Mr. - - -	8	–	–	Added 28 Feb.
	Hanbury, Mr. - - -	4			
	Hoare, Mr. Brodie - -	10			
	Lawson, Mr. Grant - -	6			
	Lewis, Mr. Herbert - -	5			
	Luttrell, Mr. - - -	0	–	–	Discharged 28 Feb.
	Tanner, Dr. - - -	2			
	Thornton, Mr. - - -	5			
12.					
Public Petitions - -	- - - - - - - -	–	9	Nil.	
Moved for by Sir William Walrond.	Dalrymple, Sir Charles, Chairman.	7			
	Barry, Mr. E. - - -	0			
	Biddulph, Mr. - - -	3	–	–	Acted as Chairman once.
	Brymer, Mr. - - -	3			
	Carmichael, Sir Thomas -	1			
	Cotton-Jodrell, Colonel -	3			
	Kenyon-Slaney, Colonel -	2			
	Lewis, Mr. Herbert - -	2			
	Meysey - Thompson, Sir Henry.	2			
	Morley, Mr. Charles - -	5			
	O'Connor, Mr. T. P. - -	0			
	Smith, Mr. W. F. D. - -	4			
	Tollemache, Mr. - - -	4			
	Wilson, Mr. Henry J. -	4	–	–	Acted as Chairman once.
13.					
Referees, Court of -	- - - - - - - -	–	14	Nil.	
	Lowther, Mr. James W., Chairman.	4			
	Cripps, Mr. - - - -	0			
	Greene, Mr. H. D. - -	11	–	–	Acted as Chairman twice.
	Healy, Mr. Maurice - -	3			
	Johnstone, Mr. Heywood -	10	–	–	Acted as Chairman once.
	Paulton, Mr. - - -	7			
	Smith, Mr. Parker - -	10	–	–	Acted as Chairman five times.
	Mellor, Mr. J. W. - -	0			
	Jones, Mr. Brynmor - -	9	–	–	Acted as Chairman twice.
	Carter, Mr. Bonham - -	7			
	Leigh, Mr. Chandos - -	14			

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Subject of Inquiry, and Names of the Members who Moved for each Committee.	Names of Members appointed to Serve on each Committee and the Chairman of each.	Number of Days each Member attended.	Number of Days each Committee met.	Total Expense of Attendance of Witnesses.	REMARKS.
14.				£ s. d.	
Selection, Committee of	- - - - - - -	–	25	Nil.	
Moved for by Mr. Halsey.	Halsey, Mr., Chairman -	25			
	Buxton, Mr. Sydney - -	14			
	Dorington, Sir John - -	17			
	Dyke, Sir William Hart -	7			
	Farquharson, Dr. - -	21			
	M'Carthy, Mr. Justin - -	0			
	Spicer, Mr. Albert - -	19			
	Stanhope, Mr. Philip - -	8			
	Stewart, Sir Mark - -	19			
	Wharton, Mr. - - -	9			
	Wodehouse, Mr. - - -	24			
15.					
Standing Committee on Law, &c.	- - - - - - -	–	6		
Nominated 28 February.	Mr. Stuart-Wortley, Chairman.	3	–	–	Appointed 1 March; discharged 29 June.
Bills.	Sir James Fergusson, Chairman.	3	–	–	Appointed 29 June.
Public Libraries (Scotland) Acts Amendment, 10 minutes.	Members (68).				
	Advocate, The Lord (Mr. Graham Murray).	3			
Small Houses (Acquisition of Ownership), 2 days.	Asquith, Mr. - - -	0			
	Atherley-Jones, Mr. - -	0			
	Attorney-General, Mr. (Sir R. Webster).	2	–	–	Added 18 April; discharged 4 July.
Board of Education (Lords) 2 days.	Attorney-General for Ireland, Mr. (Mr. Atkinson).	3			
	Balfour, Mr. J. B. - -	1			
Improvement of Land, ½ day.	Barlow, Mr. - - -	1			
	Bartley, Mr. - - -	2	–	–	Discharged 21 April; added 12 May.
	Beach, Mr. - - - -	3			
	Butcher, Mr. - - -	1	–	–	Discharged 4 July; added 7 July.
	Carew, Mr. - - -	0			
	Cecil, Mr. Evelyn - -	2	–	–	Added 3 July; discharged 7 July.
	Cochrane, Mr. - - -	2	–	–	Added 21 April; discharged 2 May.
	Coghill, Mr. - - -	0			
	Commins, Dr. - - -	0			
	Cooke, Mr. Radcliffe - -	4			
	Cranborne, Viscount - -	2			
	Cripps, Mr. - - - -	0			
	Davenport, Mr. Bromley- -	0			
	Dilke, Sir Charles - -	2			
	Dillon, Mr. - - - -	0			
	Egerton, Mr. Tatton - -	3			
	Elliot, Mr. Arthur - -	4			
	Evans, Mr. Samuel - -	0			
	Fardell, Sir George - -	0		–	Discharged 21 April; added 2 May; discharged 3 July; added 7 July.
	Flynn, Mr. - - - -	0			
	Fry, Mr. Lewis - - -	3			

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Subject of Inquiry, and Names of the Members who Moved for each Committee.	Names of Members appointed to Serve on each Committee and the Chairman of each.	Number of Days each Member attended.	Number of Days each Committee met.	Total Expense of Attendance of Witnesses.	REMARKS.
15.				£ s. d.	
Standing Committee on Law, &c.—*continued.*	Gedge, Mr. Sydney	3	–	–	Discharged 3 July; added 7 July.
	Gladstone, Mr.	0			
	Godson, Sir Frederick	0			
	Goulding, Mr.	1			
	Graham, Mr.	3			
	Greene, Mr. H. D.	3			
	Haldane, Mr.	1			
	Healy, Mr. T. M.	0			
	Helder, Mr.	3			
	Hemphill, Mr.	3			
	Hickman, Sir Alfred	2	–	–	Added 21 April; discharged 12 May.
	Hill, Mr. Staveley	3			
	Hobhouse, Mr.	5			
	Humphreys-Owen, Mr.	2	–	–	Added 30 June.
	Jenkins, Sir John	1			
	Johnson-Ferguson, Mr.	3			
	Jones, Mr. William	2	–	–	Added 3 July; discharged 7 July.
	Knowles, Mr. Lees	2			
	Lawrence, Mr. W. F.	3			
	Leese, Sir Joseph	0			
	Loder, Mr.	2	–	–	Discharged 21 April; added 2 May.
	Loyd, Mr. A. K.	5			
	MacNeill, Mr. Swift	0			
	Meysey-Thompson, Sir Henry.	2			
	Milward, Colonel	4			
	Monk, Mr.	5			
	Morgan, Mr. Lloyd	3			
	Morton, Mr. Arthur	2	–	–	Added 3 July; discharged 7 July.
	Mount, Mr.	2	–	–	Discharged 29 June; added 7 July.
	Norton, Captain	0	–	–	Discharged 3 July; added 7 July.
	Pickersgill, Mr.	0			
	Powell, Sir Francis	6			
	Pryce-Jones, Mr.	3			
	Redmond, Mr. John	0			
	Reid, Sir Robert	0			
	Renshaw, Mr.	1	–	–	Added 28 April; discharged 2 May.
	Ridley, Secretary Sir Matthew White.	0			
	Roberts, Mr. Bryn	2			
	Rollit, Sir Albert	1	–	–	Added 4 July; discharged 7 July.
	Russell, Mr. T. W.	1	–	–	Added 21 April; discharged 2 May.
	Scoble, Sir Andrew	1			
	Smith, Mr. Parker	4			
	Solicitor-General, Mr. (Sir R. Finlay).	1	–	–	Discharged 18 April; added 4 July.
	Solicitor General for Ireland (Mr. Dunbar Barton).	1			
	Spencer, Mr. Ernest	1			
	Stevenson, Mr.	2			
	Talbot, Mr.	2	–	–	Added 29 June; discharged 7 July.
	Vincent, Sir Howard	3			
	Wallace, Mr. Robert (*Perth*)	2			
	Warr, Mr.	0	–	–	Discharged 28 April; added 2 May.
	Woodhouse, Sir J.	1			
	Woods, Mr. Samuel	0	–	–	Discharged 30 June.

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Subject of Inquiry, and Names of the Members who Moved for each Committee.	Names of Members appointed to Serve on each Committee and the Chairman of each.	Number of Days each Member attended.	Number of Days each Committee met.	Total Expense of Attendance of Witnesses.	REMARKS.
15. Standing Committee on Law, &c.—*contd.*				£ s. d.	
	Added in respect of the Public Libraries (Scotland) Acts Amendment Bill - (28 Feb.) (15)				
	Birrell, Mr. - - -	0			
	Buchanan, Mr. - - -	1			
	Cameron, Sir Charles - -	1			
	Corbett, Mr. Cameron -	0			
	Dalkeith, Lord - - -	1			
	Heddcrwick, Mr. - -	1			
	Hozier, Mr. - - -	0			
	Lecky, Mr. - - - -	1			
	Leng, Sir John - - -	1			
	Maxwell, Sir Herbert - -	0			
	Maxwell, Sir John Stirling -	0			
	Robertson, Mr. Edmund -	0			
	Rutherford, Mr. - - -	0			
	Shaw-Stewart, Mr. - -	0			
	Souttar, Mr. - - -	1			
	Added in respect of the Small Houses (Acquisition of Ownership) Bill (18 April) - - (15)				
	Bainbridge, Mr. - - -	2			
	Chamberlain, Mr. Secretary	2			
	Davitt, Mr. - - -	0			
	Drage, Mr. - - - -	2			
	Foster, Sir Walter - -	0	–	–	Added 21 April.
	Galloway, Mr. - - -	1			
	Hughes, Colonel - - -	2			
	Kimber, Mr. - - -	0			
	Leighton, Mr. Stanley -	1			
	Logan, Mr. - - - -	0			
	Lowles, Mr. - - -	1			
	M'Kenna, Mr. - - -	0	–	–	Added 18 April: discharged 21 April.
	Maddison, Mr. - - -	0			
	Maple, Sir Blundell - -	2			
	Samuel, Mr. Jonathan -	1			
	Ure, Mr. - - - -	2			
	Added in respect of the Board of Education Bill [H.L.] (29 June) (15)				
	Anson, Sir William - -	1			
	Birrell, Mr. - - -	0			
	Bryce, Mr. - - - -	2			
	Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. (Sir M. Hicks-Beach).	2			
	Channing, Mr. - - -	2			
	Gorst, Sir John - - -	2			
	Gray, Mr. - - - -	2			
	Jebb, Mr. - - - -	2			
	Jones, Mr. Brynmor - -	2			
	Kay-Shuttleworth, Sir Ughtred.	2			
	Lawson, Mr. Grant - -	2			
	Lewis, Mr. Herbert - -	1			
	Lockwood, Colonel - -	2			
	Williams, Colonel - -	2			
	Yoxall, Mr. - - -	2			

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Subject of Inquiry, and Names of the Members who Moved for each Committee.	Names of Members appointed to Serve on each Committee and the Chairman of each.	Number of Days each Member attended.	Number of Days each Committee met.	Total Expense of Attendance of Witnesses.	REMARKS.
15.				£ s. d.	
Standing Committee on Law, &c.—*continued.*	*Added in respect of the Improvement of Land Bill* (7 July) (15)				
	Bethell, Commander	0			
	Buchanan, Mr.	0			
	Channing, Mr.	1			
	Clark, Dr.	0			
	Colston, Mr.	0			
	Digby, Mr. Wingfield	1			
	Foster, Sir Walter	1			
	Gold, Mr.	0	–	–	Discharged 11 July.
	Hayne, Mr. Seale-	1			
	Jeffreys, Mr.	1			
	Johnstone, Mr. Heywood	1			
	Kenyon Slaney, Colonel	1			
	Lambert, Mr.	1	–	–	Added 11 July.
	Lewis, Mr. Herbert	0			
	Long, Mr. Walter	1			
	Rasch, Major	1			
16.					
Standing Committee on Trade, &c.		–	14		
Nominated 28 Feb.	Mr. John E. Ellis (Chairman).	10	–	–	Appointed Chairman 14 April; discharged 7 July.
Sale of Food and Drugs Bill, 8 days.	Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice, (Chairman).	4	–	–	Appointed Chairman in respect of Agricultural and Technical Instruction (Ireland) Bill, 7 July.
Telegraphs (Telephonic Communication, &c.) Bill, 2 days.					
Agricultural and Technical Instruction (Ireland) Bill, 4 days.	Members (68).				
	Ascroft, Mr.	7	–	–	Deceased.
	Attorney-General, Mr. (Sir Richard Webster).	0	–	–	Discharged 18 April; added 4 July.
	Austin, Mr. Michael	4	–	–	Added 14 April; discharged 12 May.
	Baird, Mr.	10			
	Balcarres, Lord	3	–	–	Added 14 July.
	Baldwin, Mr.	9			
	Bartley, Mr.	6	–	–	Added 21 April; discharged 12 May.
	Beckett, Mr.	10			
	Broadhurst, Mr.	4	–	–	Discharged 18 April; added 12 May.
	Bryce, Mr.	0	–	–	Discharged 30 June.
	Burns, Mr. John	12			
	Burt, Mr.	8			
	Cayzer, Sir Charles	8			
	Chaloner, Captain	8	–	–	Added 18 April; discharged 12 May.
	Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. (Sir M. Hicks-Beach).	6	–	–	Added 29 April.
	Channing, Mr.	8			
	Cohen, Mr.	8			
	Collery, Mr.	0	–	–	Discharged 14 April; added 12 May; discharged 13 July.
	Collings, Mr. Jesse	7			
	Colomb, Sir John	6			

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Subject of Inquiry, and Names of the Members who Moved for each Committee.	Names of Members appointed to Serve on each Committee and the Chairman of each.	Number of Days each Member attended.	Number of Days each Committee met.	Total Expense of Attendance of Witnesses.	REMARKS.
16.				£ s. d.	
Standing Committee on Trade, &c.—*cont.*	Dalrymple, Sir Charles	9			
	Daly, Mr.	4			
	Davitt, Mr.	9			
	Donelan, Captain	8	–	–	Added 14 April; discharged 12 May.
	Doughty, Mr.	12			
	Duckworth, Mr.	12			
	FitzGerald, Sir R. Penrose	8			
	Fowler, Sir Henry	0			
	Galloway, Mr.	5	–	–	Added 3 July; discharged 7 April; added 11 July.
	Gedge, Mr.	1	–	–	Added 3 July; discharged 7 July.
	Gilliat, Mr.	0	–	–	Discharged 18 April; added 12 May.
	Goulding, Mr.	4	–	–	Added 11 July.
	Gourley, Sir Edward	6			
	Hanson, Sir Reginald	10			
	Harrington, Mr.	1			
	Hickman, Sir Alfred	2	–	–	Discharged 21 April; added 12 May.
	Hill, Sir Edward	7	–	–	Discharged 3 July; added 7 July.
	Houldsworth, Sir William	7			
	Jameson, Major	0	–	–	Discharged 14 April; added 12 May.
	Jeffreys, Mr.	9			
	Joicey, Sir James	2			
	Kemp, Mr.	0	–	–	Discharged 11 July.
	Lambert, Mr.	6	–	–	Added 18 April; discharged 12 May.
	Lea, Sir Thomas	8			
	Lees, Sir Elliott	3			
	Lloyd-George, Mr.	1	–	–	Discharged 18 April; added 12 May.
	Long, Colonel	12			
	Long, Mr. Walter	8			
	Lubbock, Sir John	3			
	MacDonnell, Dr.	9			
	Maclean, Mr.	7	–	–	Discharged 14 July.
	Montagu, Sir Samuel	4			
	Morley, Mr. Charles	1	–	–	Discharged 21 April; added 12 May.
	Northcote, Sir Stafford	3	–	–	Discharged 18 April; added 12 May.
	Oldroyd, Mr.	5			
	Parkes, Mr.	6			
	Philipps, Mr.	6	–	–	Added 21 April; discharged 12 May.
	Provand, Mr.	7			
	Power, Mr.	12	–	–	Added 14 April; discharged 12 May; added 13 July.
	Rankin, Sir James	6	–	–	Discharged 3 July; added 7 July.
	Renshaw, Mr.	4			
	Richardson, Sir Thomas	3			
	Ritchie, Mr.	1			
	Rollit, Sir Albert	2			
	Round, Mr.	6			
	Russell, Mr. T. W.	13			

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Subject of Inquiry, and Names of the Members who Moved for each Committee.	Names of Members appointed to Serve on each Committee and the Chairman of each.	Number of Days each Member attended.	Number of Days each Committee met.	Total Expense of Attendance of Witnesses.	REMARKS.
16.				£. s. d.	
Standing Committee on Trade, &c.—*continued.*	Seton-Karr, Mr.	8			
	Shaw, Mr. Thomas	2			
	Sidebottom, Mr. T. H.	7			
	Smith, Mr. Abel	4	–	–	Added 18 April; discharged 12 May.
	Smith, Mr. Samuel	10			
	Solicitor-General, Mr. (Sir R. Finlay).	7	–	–	Added 18 April; discharged 4 July.
	Strachey, Mr.	10			
	Stuart, Mr. James	10	–	–	Added 18 April; discharged 12 May; added 30 June.
	Tennant, Mr.	2			
	Tomlinson, Mr.	13			
	Tully, Mr.	0			
	Webster, Mr. R. G.	8	–	–	Chiltern Hundreds.
	Whiteley, Mr. George	5			
	Wilson, Mr. John (Durham)	6			
	Wilson, Mr. John (Falkirk)	6			
	Wolff, Mr.	12			
	Young, Mr.	7	–	–	Discharged 14 April; added 12 May.
	Added in respect of the Sale of Food and Drugs Bill: (April 14) (15)				
	Cameron, Sir Charles	8			
	Cavendish, Mr. Victor	5			
	Foster, Sir Walter	4			
	Fry, Mr. Lewis	8			
	Hobhouse, Mr.	3			
	Johnstone, Mr. Heywood	7			
	Jones, Mr. Brynmor	7			
	Kearley, Mr.	8			
	Kilbride, Mr.	0			
	Lawson, Mr. Grant	5			
	Leng, Sir John	8			
	Llewellyn, Mr. Evan	5			
	Lopes, Mr.	8			
	Nicol, Mr.	3			
	Redmond, Mr. John	0			
	Added in respect of the Telegraphs (Telephonic Communication, &c.) Bill: (29 June) (15)				
	Bartley, Mr.	2			
	Begg, Mr. Faithful	2			
	Boscawen, Mr. Griffith	2			
	Cameron, Sir Charles	2			
	Cawley, Mr.	2			
	Curran, Mr. Thomas	2			
	Fry, Mr. Lewis	1			
	Hanbury, Mr.	2			
	Lough, Mr.	2			
	M'Arthur, Mr. Charles	2			
	Nicol, Mr.	2			
	Redmond, Mr. John	0			
	Strutt, Mr.	0			
	Thomas, Mr. Alfred	2			
	Woodhouse, Sir James	2			

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16.				£ s. d.	
Standing Committee on Trade, &c.—*contd.*	*Added in respect of the Agricultural and Technical Instruction (Ireland) Bill:* (7 July) (15)				
	Archdale, Mr.	4			
	Arnold-Forster, Mr.	4			
	Attorney-General for Ireland, Mr. (Mr. Atkinson).	4			
	Balfour, Mr. Gerald	4			
	Campbell, Mr. J. H. M.	0	–	–	Discharged 14 July.
	Dillon, Mr	4			
	Doogan, Mr.	4			
	Drage, Mr.	2	–	–	Added 14 July.
	Esmonde, Sir Thomas	4			
	Flynn, Mr.	4			
	Molloy, Mr.	4			
	Moore, Mr. Arthur	4			
	Moore, Mr. William	1	–	–	Discharged 14 July.
	O'Neill, Mr.	4			
	Redmond, Mr. John	4			
	Saunderson, Colonel	3			
	Solicitor-General for Ireland, Mr. (Mr. Dunbar Barton).	3	–	–	Added 14 July.
17.					
Standing Orders		–	18	Nil.	
A Sessional Committee.	Halsey, Mr., Chairman	18			
	Buchanan, Mr.	9			
	Coddington, Sir William	5			
	Ellis, Mr. John Edward	14			
	Esmonde, Sir Thomas	0			
	Gourley, Sir Edward	8			
	Humphreys-Owen, Mr.	9			
	Lowther, Mr. James	14			
	Lubbock, Sir John	9			
	Mowbray, Sir John	0	–	–	Discharged 2 March.
	Mount, Mr.	8	8	–	Added 2 March.
	Redmond, Mr. William	0			
	Stewart, Sir Mark	12			
	Whitmore, Mr,	7			

Total Number of Members who served on Select Committees - - *309.

* *Note.*—In this total are included all members appointed to serve on Select Committees, whether they attend a meeting of their Committee or not, except three members who were discharged before their respective Committees met.

House of Commons,
9th August 1899.

REGINALD DICKINSON,
Principal Clerk of Committees.

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SUPPLY, SESSION 1899.

Class of Estimate, 1897-98-99.	No. of Votes.	Sittings of Committee.	No. of Votes agreed to.	Total No. of Votes agreed to.	No. remaining.
Civil Services (Excess 1897-98) - -	1	Mar. 10 -	1	1	0
Army Ordnance Factories (Excess 1897-98)	1	Mar. 10 -	1	1	0
Civil Service and Revenue Supplementary 1898-99	23	Feb. 24 - ,, 27 - Mar. 10 -	17 2 4	23	0
Navy Supplementary 1898-99 - -	1	Mar. 10 -	1	1	0
Army Supplementary 1898-99 - -	1	Feb. 24 -	1	1	0
Army Ordnance Factories Supplementary 1898-99	1	Feb. 24 -	1	1	0
Total - - -	28		28	28	0
Estimates, 1899-1900.					
Navy (including vote for men) - -	19	Mar. 13 - ,, 16 - April 14 - July 21 -	0 2 13 4	19	0
Army (including vote for men and Ordnance Factories)	18	Mar. 2 - ,, 3 - ,, 14 - ,, 17 - April 21 - July 21 - Aug. 3 -	0 1 0 4 4 0 9	18	0
Civil Services (vote on account) -	1	Mar. 20 -	1	1	0
Civil Services: Class I. (including 3 Supplementary Votes)	16	April 10 - June 30 - July 28 - ,, 31 - Aug. 3 -	8 1 1 1 5	16	0
Carried forward - -	93		93	93	0

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Class of Estimate, 1899-1900.	No. of Votes.	Sittings of Committee.	No. of Votes agreed to.	Total No. of Votes agreed to.	No. remaining.
Brought forward - -	93	—	93	93	0
Civil Services: Class II. - - - - - -	39	May 5 -	1	39	0
		,, 19 -	7		
		June 2 -	0		
		,, 9 -	0		
		,, 22 -	0		
		,, 30 -	6		
		July 14 -	1		
		,, 28 -	7		
		Aug. -	17		
Class III. (including 1 Supplementary Vote)	23	June 22 -	1	23	0
		July 7 -	9		
		,, 31 -	1		
		Aug. 3 -	12		
,, IV. (including 1 Supplementary Vote)	15	April 28 -	1	15	0
		June 16 -	0		
		,, 23 -	0		
		,, 30 -	1		
		Aug. 3 -	13		
,, V. (including 1 Supplementary Vote).	5	July 31 -	1	5	0
		Aug. 3 -	4		
,, VI. - - - - - -	4	June 1 -	3	4	0
		Aug. 3 -	1		
,, VII. (including 3 Supplementary Votes).	5	July 31 -	1	5	0
		Aug. 3 -	4		
Lord Kitchener of Khartoum - -	1	June 5 -	1	1	0
Revenue Departments - -	5	May 19 -	1	5	0
		June 1 -	4		
Total - - -	151	26	151	151	0

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ALLOTTED DAYS ON WHICH SUPPLY HAS BEEN CONSIDERED.

			Votes agreed to.
Friday	Mar. 3	Army	1
Tuesday	,, 14	,,	0
Thursday	,, 16	Navy	2
Friday	,, 17	Army	4
Monday	,, 20	Vote on Account	1
Friday	April 14	Navy	13
,,	,, 21	Army	4
,,	,, 28	Civil Service, Class 4	1
,,	May 5	,, Class 2	1
,,	,, 19	,, ,,	7
		Revenue	1
Thursday	June 1	,,	4
		Civil Service, Class 6	3
Friday	,, 2	,, Class 2	0
,,	,, 9	,, ,,	0
,,	,, 16	,, Class 4	0
Thursday	,, 22	,, Class 3	1
Friday	,, 23	,, Class 4	0
,,	,, 30	,, Class 1	1
		,, Class 2	6
		,, Class 4	1
,,	July 7	,, Class 3	9
,,	,, 14	,, Class 2	1
,,	,, 21	Navy	4
,,	,, 28	Civil Service, Class 1	1
		,, Class 2	7
Thursday	Aug. 3	,, Class 1	5
		,, Class 2	17
		,, Class 3	12
		,, Class 4	13
		,, Class 5	4
		,, Class 6	1
		,, Class 7	
		Army	
Friday	Aug. 4	Report	66
	23		

Public Bill Office,
9th August, 1899.

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CLOSURE OF DEBATE (STANDING ORDER No. 25).

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 1 August, 1899;—*for*,

RETURN respecting APPLICATION of STANDING ORDER No. 25 (CLOSURE of DEBATE) during SESSION 1899, under the following heads:—

Date when Closure Moved.	By whom Moved.	Question before House or Committee when Moved.	Whether in House or Committee.	Whether Assent given to Motion or withheld by Speaker or Chairman.	Result of Motion, and, if a Division, Numbers For and Against.
28th February	Mr. Webster	Mercantile Marine That this House views with deep concern the fact that the proportion of British seamen in the Mercantile Marine is rapidly decreasing, and also that Pilotage Certificates are being issued in increasing numbers in British waters to Foreigners, and trusts the Government will take prompt steps to inquire into the cause, in order to secure a remedy for this state of affairs.	In House	The Speaker's assent withheld.	—
3rd March	Mr. Balfour	Supply Army Estimates, 1899-1900: That a number of Land Forces, not exceeding 184,853, all ranks, be maintained for the Service of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland at Home and Abroad, excluding Her Majesty's Indian Possessions, during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1900.	In Committee	The Chairman's assent given.	Closure carried on Division: Ayes, 132; Noes, 35.

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8th March	Sir Francis Sharp Powell	Rivers Pollution Prevention Bill That the Bill be now read a second time. Amendment proposed, to leave out the word "now," and at the end of the Question to add the words "upon this day six months." That the word "now" stand part of the Question.	In House	The Speaker's assent withheld.	—
9th March	Mr. Balfour	Sale of Food and Drugs Bill (Ajourned Debate on Amendment proposed to Question, 6th March): That the Bill be now read a second time. And which Amendment was, to leave out the word "now," and at the end of the Question to add the words "upon this day six months." That the word "now" stand part of the Question.	In House	The Deputy Speaker's assent given.	Closure carried on Division: Ayes, 164; Noes, 55.
20th March	Mr. Balfour	Supply Civil Services and Revenue Departments, 1899-1900 (Vote on Account): That a sum, not exceeding £14,781,000, be granted to Her Majesty, on account, for or towards defraying the Charges for the Civil Services and Revenue Departments for the year ending on the 31st day of March 1900.	In Committee	The Chairman's assent given.	Closure carried on Division; Ayes, 136; Noes, 33.
22nd March	Sir Fortescue Flannery	Consolidated Fund (No. 1) Bill That the Bill be now read a second time.	In House	The Speaker's assent withheld.	—
22nd March	Mr. Lionel Holland	Ditto - - - ditto	In House	The Speaker's assent withheld.	—
22nd March	Mr. Bousfield	Old Age Pensions Bill That the Bill be now read a second time.	In House	The Speaker's assent withheld.	—

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Date when Closure Moved.	By whom Moved.	Question before House or Committee when Moved.	Whether in House or Committee.	Whether Assent given to Motion or withheld by Speaker or Chairman.	Result of Motion, and, if a Division, Numbers For and Against.
26th April	Mr. Gordon	Ecclesiastical Assessments (Scotland) Bill That the Bill be now read a second time. Amendment proposed, to leave out the word "now," and at the end of the Question to add the words "upon this day six months." That the word "now" stand part of the Question.	In House	Mr. Speaker withheld his assent, and declined then to put the Question, because it appeared to him that the House was prepared shortly to come to a decision without the Motion.	—
28th April	Mr. Balfour	Supply Civil Services and Revenue Departments Estimates, 1899-1900: Class IV. That a sum, not exceeding £5,153,986, be granted to Her Majesty to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1900, for Public Education in England and Wales, including Salaries and Expenses of the Education Office in London, &c.	In Committee	The Chairman's assent given.	Closure carried on Division: Ayes, 153; Noes, 63.
5th May	Mr. Balfour	Supply Civil Services and Revenue Departments Estimates, 1899-1900: Class II. That a sum, not exceeding £133,098, be granted to Her Majesty, to complete the sum necessary to defray the Charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1900, for the Salaries and Expenses of the Office of the Committee of the Privy Council for Trade and Subordinate Departments.	In Committee	The Chairman's assent given.	Closure carried on Division: Ayes, 134; Noes, 55.

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31st May	Mr. Robson	Education of Children That Clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill.	In Committee	The Chairman's assent given.	Closure carried on Division: Ayes, 263; Noes, 26.
5th June	Mr. Aird	Supply (Grant to Lord Kitchener) That a sum, not exceeding £30,000, be granted to Her Majesty, to be issued to the Major-General Lord Kitchener of Khartoum, G.C.B., K.C.M.G., as an acknowledgment of his eminent services in planning and conducting the recent Expedition in the Soudan.	In Committee	The Chairman's assent withheld.	—
14th June	Mr. Duncombe	Education of Children Bill That the Bill be now read the third time. Amendment proposed, to leave out the word "now," and at the end of the Question to add the words "upon this day three months." That the word "now," stand part of the Question.	In House	The Speaker's assent withheld.	—
14th June	Sir John Blundell Maple	Service Franchise Bill, as amended, *considered* Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 6, after the word "employment," to insert the words "and the dwelling-house is not inhabited by any person under whom such man serves in such office, service, or employment." That those words be inserted.	In House	The Speaker's assent given.	Closure carried on Division: Ayes, 185; Noes, 143.
28th June	Sir John Leng	Telegraphs (Telephonic Communication, &c.) Bill (Adjourned Debate on Amendment, [26th June] to Question [21st June]): That the Bill be committed to the Standing Committee on Trade, &c. And which Amendment was, to leave out the words "the Standing Committee on Trade, &c.," and add the words "a Select Committee." That the words "the Standing Committee on Trade, &c.," stand part of the Question.	In House	The Speaker withheld his assent, because it appeared to him that the House was prepared shortly to come to a decision without that Motion.	—

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Date when Closure Moved.	By whom Moved.	Question before House or Committee when Moved.	Whether in House or Committee.	Whether Assent given to Motion or withheld by Speaker or Chairman.	Result of Motion, and, if a Division, Numbers For and Against.
3rd July -	Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer	Royal Niger Company [Consolidated Fund] - - - That it is expedient to authorise the issue, out of the Consolidated Fund, of sums not exceeding £865,000, and for the purpose of providing money for such issue, the borrowing, by means of terminable annuities charged on and paid out of the moneys annually provided by Parliament for Foreign and Colonial Services, and, if those moneys are insufficient, out of the Consolidated Fund, of a sum not exceeding £820,000, for making payments to the Royal Niger Company, in consideration of the transfer to the Crown of the administrative powers of the said Company, together with their treaty and other rights and property, and for meeting expenditure rendered necessary by such transfer.	In Committee -	The Chairman's assent given.	Closure carried on Division : Ayes, 216; Noes, 116.
6th July -	Mr. Balfour - -	Military Works Bill (Adjourned Debate on Question) [3rd July] That the Bill be now read a second time. Question again proposed :—Debate resumed. Amendment proposed, to leave out from the word "That," to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "this House declines to proceed further with a Bill authorising the expenditure of public money upon Military Works unless full details of the purposes for which this outlay is to be made are contained therein." That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.	In House -	The Speaker's assent given.	Closure carried on Division : Ayes, 159; Noes, 64.

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6th July	Mr. Balfour	Military Works Bill (Adjourned Debate on Question) [3rd July] After the above proposed Amendment had been negatived on Division-- Mr. Balfour claimed that the Main Question be now put.	In House	The Speaker's assent given.	Main Question put accordingly.
10th July	Mr. Walter Long	Tithe Rent-charge (Rates) Bill Clause 1:— Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 5, to leave out the words "attached to," and insert the words "not severed from." That the words "attached to" stand part of the Clause.	In Committee	The Chairman's assent given.	Closure carried on Division: Ayes, 249; Noes, 135.
11th July	Mr. Balfour	Ditto - - ditto - - ditto - - - Clause 1:— Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 5, after the word "benefice," to insert the words "to which such owner may be presented after the passing of this Act." That those words be there inserted.	In Committee	The Chairman's assent given.	Closure carried on Division: Ayes, 258; Noes, 160.
11th July	Mr. Balfour	Ditto - - ditto - - ditto - - - After the above proposed Amendment had been negatived on Division. Mr. Balfour claimed to move, that the Question, that the words of the Clause "shall be liable to pay only," stand part of the Clause, be now put.	In Committee	The Chairman withheld his assent, and declined then to put that Question, because, if carried, it would exclude an important Amendment; and he invited the Committee to assist him in securing the consideration of that Amendment.	—

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Date when Closure Moved.	By whom Moved.	Question before House or Committee when Moved.	Whether in House or Committee.	Whether Assent given to Motion or withheld by Speaker or Chairman.	Result of Motion, and, if a Division, Numbers For and Against.
11th July	Mr. Balfour	Tithe Rent-charge (Rates) Bill Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 5, after the word "benefice," to insert the words "who has incurred expenses in the employment of a curate for the purposes of such benefice, or has incurred expenses about repairing the church belonging to such benefice, he shall, where such expenditure is not less than one-half of the amount of any rate to which this Act applies." That those words be there inserted.	In Committee	The Chairman's assent given.	Closure carried on Division: Ayes, 208; Noes, 121
11th July	Mr. Balfour	Ditto - - ditto - - ditto - - - After the above proposed Amendment had been negatived on Division. Mr. Balfour claimed to move that the Question, That the words of the Clause "shall be liable to pay only," stand part of the Clause, be now put.	In Committee	The Chairman's assent given.	Closure carried on Division: Ayes, 222; Noes, 135,
11th July	Mr. Balfour	Ditto - - ditto - - ditto - - - It being after Midnight, the Chairman proceeded to interrupt the Business. Whereupon Mr. Balfour claimed to move that the Question, That the words of the Clause to the word "and," in line 8, stand part of the Clause, be now put.	In Committee	The Chairman's assent given.	Closure carried on Division: Ayes, 224; Noes, 104.
12th July	Mr. Balfour	Ditto - - ditto - - ditto - - - Clause 1:— Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 11, after the word "account," to insert the words "in excess of such sum paid by them to Local Taxation Account in 1898." That those words be there inserted.	In Committee	The Chairman's assent given.	Closure carried on Division: Ayes, 270; Noes, 148

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12th July	Mr. Balfour	Tithe Rent-charge (Rates) Bill The above proposed Amendment having been negatived on Division, and it being after half-past Five of the clock, the Chairman proceeded to interrupt the Business:—Whereupon Mr. Balfour claimed to move that the Question, "That Clause 1 stand part of the Bill" be now put.	In Committee	The Chairman's assent given.	Closure carried on Division: Ayes, 266; Noes, 151.
13th July	Mr. Walter Long	Ditto - - ditto - - ditto - - - Clause 2:— Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 13, after the word "requires," to insert the words, "(a) The expression 'the Local Taxation Account' shall have the same meaning as in the Local Government Act, 1888." That those words be there inserted.	In Committee	The Chairman's assent given	Closure carried on Division: Ayes, 250; Noes, 173.
13th July	Mr. Balfour	Ditto - - - ditto - - ditto - - Amendment proposed, in page 1, line 25, to leave out paragraph (c), of sub-section 1, and insert the words, "The expression 'owner' means the incumbent in receipt of the tithe rent-charge at the date of the passing of this Act." That paragraph (c), of sub-section 1, stand part of the Clause.	In Committee	The Chairman's assent given	Closure carried on Division: Ayes, 187; Noes, 107.
13th July	Mr. Balfour	The above proposed Amendment having been negatived on Division, Mr. Balfour claimed to move that the Question, "That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill," be now put.	In Committee	The Chairman's assent given	Closure carried on Division: Ayes, 184; Noes, 97.
13th July	Mr. Banbury	Ditto - - - ditto - - ditto - - A Clause (Extent of Act) read the first time:— "That the Clause be read a second time."	In Committee	The Chairman's assent withheld	—

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Date when Closure Moved.	By whom Moved.	Question before House or Committee when Moved.	Whether in House or Committee.	Whether Assent given to Motion or withheld by Speaker or Chairman.	Result of Motion, and, if a Division, Numbers For and Against.
13th July -	Mr. Bousfield -	Tithe Rent-charge (Rates) Bill - - - - - - "That the Chairman do report Progress, and ask leave to sit again."	In Committee -	The Chairman's assent withheld	—
13th July -	Mr. Walter Long	Ditto - - - ditto - - ditto - - Another Clause (Amount of payment under Act in respect of any tithe rent-charge to be certified by Inland Revenue Commissioners to the council of the county borough or administrative county wherein the rent-charge arises) *brought up*, and read the first time. "That the Clause be read a second time."	In Committee -	The Chairman's assent given	Closure carried on Division; Ayes, 202; Noes, 97.

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RETURN respecting Application of Standing Order No. 25 (Closure of Debate) during Session 1899—*continued.*

SUMMARY.

Session.	Name of Member by whom Closure Moved, and Number of Times Moved.	Total Number of Times Closure Moved.	Number of Times Closure Moved in House.	Number of Times Closure Moved in Committee.	Number of Times Assent given to Closure by Mr. Speaker.	Number of Times Assent withheld by Mr. Speaker.	Number of Times Assent given to Closure by the Chairman.	Number of Times Assent withheld by the Chairman.	Number of Times Closure Carried on Division.	Number of Times Closure Negatived on Division.	Number of Times Closure Agreed to without a Division.	Number of Times Closure not in Order.
1899	Mr. Aird (1) Mr. Balfour (16) Mr. Banbury (1) Mr. Bousfield (2) Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer (1) Mr. Duncombe (1) Sir F. Flannery (1) Mr. Gordon (1) Mr. Lionel Holland (1) Sir John Leng (1) Mr. Walter Long (3) Sir John Blundell Maple (1) Sir Francis Sharp Powell (1) Mr. Robson (1) Mr. Webster (1)	33	12	21	Mr. Speaker 3 Mr. Deputy Speaker - 1 Total - 4	Mr. Speaker 8 Mr. Deputy Speaker - 0 Total - 8	17	4	20	0	*1	0

* One Main Question claimed to be put.

11 *August* 1899.

William H. Ley,
Clerk of the Journals.

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ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER No. 17.

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 1 August 1899;—*for*,

RETURN "of MOTIONS for ADJOURNMENT under STANDING ORDER No. 17, showing the Date of such Motion, the Name of the Member proposing, the definite Matter of Urgent Public Importance, and the Result of any Division taken thereon, during the Session of 1899 (in the same Form as, and in continuation of, Parliamentary Paper, No. 356, of Session 1898)."

I.—LEAVE OF THE HOUSE SIGNIFIED WITHOUT A CALL UPON MEMBERS TO RISE IN THEIR PLACES.

MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT.

Session 1899.

Nil.

II.—LEAVE OF THE HOUSE SIGNIFIED BY MORE THAN FORTY MEMBERS RISING IN THEIR PLACES.

MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT.

Session 1899.

27 February 1899. Page 115 of the Votes. St. James, Northamptonshire (School).

(Mr. *Labouchere*, Member for the Borough of Northampton),—for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz., "the persistent refusal of the Managers of the only school in the urban district of St. James, Northamptonshire, to admit above 300 children of the ratepayers of the district into this school on the sole ground of their wearing a medal, thus rendering the parents of these children unable to fulfil the obligations imposed on them by law;" but the pleasure of the House not having been signified, Mr. Speaker called on those members who supported the Motion to rise in their places, and not less than 40 Members having accordingly risen: Question, That this House do now adjourn, negatived on Division (Ayes, 99; Noes, 201).

13 March 1899. Page 160 of the Votes. Chinese Territory (Demands of Italy).

(Mr. *Pritchard Morgan*, Member for Merthyr Tydvil),—for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz., that Her Majesty's Representative at Pekin is now supporting the demands of Italy for a sphere of interest in Chinese Territory with Sammun Bay as a naval base, notwithstanding the Resolution passed by this House on the 1st March 1898, that it is of vital importance for British commerce and influence that the independence of Chinese Territory should be maintained;" but the pleasure of the House not having been signified, Mr. Speaker called on those members who supported the Motion to rise in their places, and not less than 40 Members having accordingly risen: Question, That this House do now adjourn, negatived without a Division.

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11 May 1899. Page 368 of the Votes. Secondary Education (Scotland).

(Captain *Sinclair*, Member for Forfar),—for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz., "the new Scheme for Secondary Education in Scotland as set forth in the Minute of 27th April, which provides for the distribution of £35,000, and will become operative on the 27th day of this month;" but the pleasure of the House not having been signified, Mr. Speaker called on those members who supported the Motion to rise in their places, and not less than 40 Members having accordingly risen: Motion, That this House do now adjourn, by leave, withdrawn.

18 May 1899. Page 401 of the Votes. Public Meeting, county of Mayo.

(Mr. *Davitt*, Member for South Mayo),—for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz., "the suppression of a public meeting in the county of Mayo, on Sunday last, by a force of armed police, and of an unwarranted interference thereby with the legal right of the people of that county to exercise the privileges of free speech and of public meeting for the purpose of discussing their grievances and of demanding constitutional remedies therefor;" but the pleasure of the House not having been signified, Mr. Speaker called on those members who supported the Motion to rise in their places, and not less than 40 Members having accordingly risen: Question, That this House do now adjourn, negatived on Division (Ayes, 107; Noes 212).

1 June 1899. Page 419 of the Votes. Belfast (Public Meetings).

(Mr. *Dillon*, Member for East Mayo),—for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz., "the persistent holding of disorderly and riotous public meetings in the City of Belfast, and the grave danger to the public peace resulting from these proceedings, and from the inaction of the executive"; but the pleasure of the House not having been signified, Mr. Speaker called on those members who supported the Motion to rise in their places, and not less than 40 Members having accordingly risen: Question, That this House do now adjourn, negatived on Division (Ayes, 73; Noes, 125).

III.—Leave of the House given on Division.

Motions for Adjournment.

Session 1899.

Nil.

IV.—Leave of the House Refused by less than Forty Members rising in their Places.

Motions for Adjournment.

Session 1899.

Nil.

V.—Mr. Speaker declines to Allow the Motion to be submitted to the House.

Motions for Adjournment.

Session 1899.

Nil.

William H. Ley,
Clerk of the Journals.

10 August 1899.

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SUMMARY.

Motions for Adjournment.	Session 1899
I.—Leave of the House signified without a Call upon Members to rise in their Places	0
II.—Leave of the House signified by not less than Forty Members rising in their Places	5
III.—Leave of the House given on Division	0
IV.—Leave of the House Refused by less than Forty Members rising in their Places	0
V.—Motions for Adjournment not allowed by Mr. Speaker to be submitted to the House	0

Number of Times Members asked leave to move the Adjournment of the House in each of the following Years.

1882	4	1891	5
1883	5	1892	3
1884	9	1893–94	20
1885	4	1894	4
1886	4	1895 Session 1 - 2; Session 2 - 0	2
1887	11	1896	6
1888	10	1897	7
1889	7	1898	5
1890	6	1899	5

William H. Ley,
Clerk of the Journals.

10 August 1899.

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PUBLIC PETITIONS.

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 1 August 1899;—*for*,

RETURN "of the Number of PUBLIC PETITIONS Presented and Printed in the Session 1899; with the Total Number of Signatures in that Year (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper, No. 0·282, of Session 1898)."

YEAR.	Number of Petitions Presented.	Number of Petitions Printed.	Total Number of Signatures.
1899 - - - - - -	3,782	116	124,867

William H. Ley,
Clerk of the Journals.

10*th August*, 1899.

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LIST OF RULES, ORDERS, &c.,

WHICH HAVE BEEN PRESENTED DURING THE SESSION, AND ARE REQUIRED BY STATUTE TO LIE FOR AN APPOINTED NUMBER OF DAYS UPON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

Title of Paper.	Date of Presentation.	Period (after Presentation) to lie upon the Table.
Inebriate Reformatories (Regulations),—Copy of General Regulations approved by the Secretary of State for the Home Department for the management and discipline of Certified Inebriate Reformatories, under the provisions of the Statute 61 and 62 Vic., c. 60 [61 and 62 Vic., c. 60, s. 21 (1)]	During the Recess	4 weeks (whilst the House is sitting).
Factory and Workshop Acts (Humidity),—Copy of Order of the Secretary of State for the Home Department, dated 24th December 1898, as to the maximum limits of humidity of atmosphere to be observed in factories in which the spinning of merino, cashmere, or wool by the "French," or "Dry," process is carried on [41 Vic., c. 16, s. 65 (3)]	7 February	40 days.
Factory and Workshop Acts (Particulars of Piece Work Wages in Textile Workshops),—Copy of Order of the Secretary of State, dated 2nd September 1898, applying the provisions of Section 40 of The Factory and Workshop Act, 1895, to Workshops in which is carried on the manufacture, &c., of cotton, wool, hair, silk, flax, hemp, jute, tow, china grass, cocoanut fibre, or other like material [41 Vic., c. 16, s. 65 (3)]	7 February	40 days.
Factory and Workshop Acts (Particulars of Piece Work Wages) (Wholesale Tailoring),—Copy of Order of the Secretary of State, dated 6th August 1898, applying with modifications the provisions of Section 40 of The Factory and Workshop Act, 1895, to Factories and Workshops in which Wholesale Tailoring is carried on [41 Vic., c. 16, s. 65 (3)]	7 February	40 days.
Factory and Workshop Acts (Making of Transfers for Earthenware and China),—Copy of Special Rules with regard to the Employment of Persons in making Transfers for Earthenware and China [58 and 59 Vic., c. 37, s. 28 (1)]	7 February	40 days.
Factory and Workshop Acts (Period of Employment) (Warehouses in Factories or Workshops where Edge Tools are made),—Copy of Order of the Secretary of State permitting Warehouses, in Factories or Workshops where Edge Tools are made, to be treated as separate Factories or Workshops, so far as regards the Period of Employment of Children, Young Persons, and Women [41 Vic., c. 16, s. 65 (3)]	7 February	40 days.
Prisons (Rules for Convict Prisons),—Copy of Draft of Rules for Convict Prisons proposed to be made under The Prison Act, 1898 [61 and 62 Vic., c. 41, s. 2 (2)]	7 February	30 days.
Prisons (Rules for Local Prisons),—Copy of Draft of Rules for Local Prisons proposed to be made under The Prison Act, 1898 [61 and 62 Vic., c. 41, s. 2 (2)]	7 February	30 days.

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Title of Paper.	Date of Presentation.	Period (after Presentation) to lie upon the Table.
Intermediate Education (Ireland),—Copy of Time Table of the Examinations for the year 1899 [41 and 42 Vic., c. 66, s. 6]	7 February	40 days.
Irish Land Commission (Rules),—Copy of Rules, dated 9th November, 1898, pursuant to section 50 of The Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881 [44 and 45 Vic., c. 49, s. 50 (3)]	7 February	100 sitting days.
Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks Acts,—Copy of Patents Rules, 1898, under the Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks Acts, 1883 to 1888 [46 and 47 Vic., c. 57, s. 101 (5)]	7 February	40 days.
Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks Acts,—Copy of Designs Rules 1898, under the Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks Acts, 1883 to 1888 [46 and 47 Vic., c. 57, s. 101 (5)]	7 February	40 days.
Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks Acts,—Copy of Trade Marks Rules, 1898, under the Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks Acts, 1883 to 1888 [46 and 47 Vic., c. 57, s. 101 (5)]	7 February	40 days.
Universities of Oxford and Cambridge Act, 1877 (Oxford),—Copy of Statute made by the Governing Body of Queen's College, Oxford, under The Universities of Oxford and Cambridge Act, 1877, on 16th July 1898, altering Statute XV. of the Statutes of the College [40 and 41 Vic., c. 48, s. 50]	7 February	12 weeks.
Land Transfer Act, 1897,—Copy of Order in Council of 20th October 1898, postponing part of the operation of the Order in Council of 18th July 1898 relating to the compulsory registration of title to Land on Sale in the county of London [60 and 61 Vic., c. 65, s. 20 (9)]	7 February	40 days.
Endowed Schools Act, 1869, and Amending Acts,—Copy of Scheme, under The Endowed Schools Act, 1869, and Amending Acts, for the Management of the Foundation known as the Grammar School, in the borough of Colchester, in the county of Essex, founded by Charter or Letters Patent of King Henry VIII., dated the 12th November 1539, and refounded by Letters Patent of Queen Elizabeth, dated 6th July 1584 [36 and 37 Vic., c. 87, s. 15]	7 February	2 months.
Endowed Schools Act, 1869, and Amending Acts,—Copy of Scheme under The Endowed Schools Act, 1869, and Amending Acts, for the Management of the Foundation, called Queen Mary's Schools, in the borough of Walsall, in the county of Stafford, regulated by a Scheme, made under the Endowed Schools Acts, 1869, 1873, and 1874, on the 28th July 1893 [36 and 37 Vict., c. 87, s. 15]	7 February	2 months.
Endowed Schools Act, 1869, and Amending Acts,—Copy of Scheme under The Endowed Schools Act, 1869, and Amending Acts, for the Management of the Foundation, consisting of the Bluecoat School, in the Borough of Stockton-on-Tees, in the county of Durham, and all Endowments attached thereto or applied for the purposes thereof [36 and 37 Vic., c. 87, s. 15]	7 February	2 months.
Supreme Court (Rules),—Copy of Rules of the Supreme Court, dated 15th August 1898 [38 and 39 Vic., c. 77, s. 25]	7 February	40 sitting days.

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Title of Paper.	Date of Presentation.	Period (after Presentation) to lie upon the Table.
Intermediate Education (Ireland), —Copy of Rule made by the intermediate Education Board for Ireland, dated 31st August 1898 [41 and 42 Vic., c. 66, s. 6]	8 February	40 days.
Winter Assizes (Ireland),—Copy of Four Orders in Council, dated 2nd November 1898, for holding Winter Assizes in Ireland [40 and 41 Vic., c. 57, s. 69]	8 February	100 sitting days.
County Officers and Courts (Ireland) Act, 1877 (Rules), —Copy of Rules made by the Lord Chancellor of Ireland and County Court Judges under The Workmen's Compensrtion Act, 1897 [40 and 41 Vic., c. 56, s. 89]	8 February	100 sitting days.
Supreme Court of Judicature (Ireland) Act, 1877,—Copy of Order in Council, dated 19th November 1898, giving effect to Rules of Court under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897 [40 and 41 Vic., c 57, s. 69]	8 February	100 sitting days.
Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898 (Rules),—Copy of Order in Council, dated 16th August 1898, making Rules under The Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898 [61 and 62 Vic., c. 37, s. 107 (2)]	8 February	40 sitting days.
Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898 (Rules),—Copy of Two Orders in Council, dated 22nd December 1898, making Rules under The Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898 [61 and 62 Vic., c. 37, s. 107 (2)]	8 February	40 sitting days.
Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898 (Rules),—Copy of Two Orders in Council, dated 30th January 1899, making Rules under The Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898 [61 and 62 Vic., c. 37, s. 107 (2)]	8 February	40 sitting days.
Supreme Court of Judicature (Ireland) Act, 1877,—Copy of Order in Council, dated 3rd February 1899, giving effect to provisional Rules of Court relating to Election Petitions, under the Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898 [40 and 41 Vic., c. 57, s. 69]	13 February	100 sitting days
Inebriate Reformatories (Scotland) (Regulations),—Copy of Regulations for certified Inebriate Reformatories for Scotland [61 and 62 Vic., c. 60, s. 21 (1)]	14 February	4 weeks (whilst the House is sitting).
Public Records (Disposal of Documents),—Copy of Rule under The Public Record Office Act, 1877, for the disposal of certain Documents [40 and 41 Vic., c. 55, s. 1, and 61 and 62 Vic., c. 12, s. 1]	16 February	9 weeks.
Railwavs (Certificates) (East and West Yorkshire Union Railways),—Copy of Draft Certificate of the Board of Trade authorising the East and West Yorkshire Union Railways to raise additional capital [27 and 28 Vic., c. 121, s. 16]	23 February	6 weeks.
Education (Scotland) (Code, 1899),—Copy of Code of Regulations for Day Schools by the Lords of the Committee of the Privy Council on Education in Scotland [35 and 36 Vic., c. 62, s. 67]	24 February	1 month.
Universities of Oxford and Cambridge Act, 1877 (Cambridge),—Copy of Statutes made by the Governing Body of Trinity College, Cambridge, under The Universities of Oxford and Cambridge Act, 1877, on 22nd October 1898, altering and amending certain Statutes of the College [40 and 41 Vic., c. 48, s. 50]	2 March	12 weeks.

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Title of Paper.	Date of Presentation.	Period (after Presentation) to lie upon the Table.
Universities of Oxford and Cambridge Act, 1877 (Cambridge),—Copy of Statutes made by the Governing Body of St. John's College, Cambridge, under The Universities of Oxford and Cambridge Act, 1877, on 28th October 1898, amending Statutes 43 and 54 of the College Statutes (40 and 41 Vic., c. 48, s. 50]	3 March	12 weeks.
Education Department (Code 1899),—Copy of Code of Regulations for Day Schools, with Schedules and Appendices, by the Lords of the Committee of the Privy Council on Education [33 and 34 Vic., c. 75, s. 97)	6 March	1 month.
Endowed Schools Act, 1869, and Amending Acts,—Copy of Scheme for the Management of the Foundation, called or known as St. Paul's School, in London, founded by Dean Colet, now regulated by a Scheme made under the Endowed Schools Acts on the 24th March 1876, as altered by a Scheme of the Charity Commissioners of the 4th July 1879 [36 and 37 Vic., c. 87, s. 15]	16 March	2 months.
Benefices Act, 1898,—Copy of Rules under The Benefices Act, 1898, dated 15th March 1899, and entitled the Benefices Rules, 1899 [55 and 56 Vic., c. 32, s. 9 (2), and 61 and 62 Vic., c. 48, s. 11]	16 March	40 sitting days.
Railways (Certificates) (Ealing and South Harrow Railway Company),—Copy of Draft Certificate of the Board of Trade authorising the Ealing and South Harrow Railway Company to raise additional Capital [27 and 28 Vic., c. 121, s. 16]	20 March	6 weeks.
Inebriate Reformatories (Ireland) (Rules),—Copy of Rules, under the Inebriates Act, 1898, for the Management of State Reformatories in Ireland [61 and 62 Vic., c. 60, s. 21 (1)]	21 March	4 weeks (whilst the House is sitting).
Benefices Act, 1898,—Copy of Rules, under The Benefices Act, 1898, dated 29th December 1898, and entitled the Benefices Rules, 1898 [55 and 56 Vic., c. 32, s. 9 (2), and 61 and 62 Vic., c. 48, s. 11)	22 March	40 sitting days.
Irish Land Commission (Rules),—Copy of Rules, dated 13th March 1899, in relation to proceedings under the Land Law (Ireland) Acts [44 and 45 Vic., c. 49, s. 50 (3)]	24 March	100 sitting days.
Irish Land Commission (Rules),—Copy of Rules, dated 13th March 1899, as to Assistant Commissioners under the Irish Land Commission [44 and 45 Vic., c. 49, s. 50 (3)]	24 March	100 sitting days.
Revenue Departments (Appropriation Accounts),—Copy of Treasury Minute, dated 22nd March 1899, adding to Schedule B of The Exchequer and Audit Departments Act, 1866 (29 and 30 Vic., c. 39), the Appropriation Accounts of the Grants for the three Revenue Departments, viz.: the Post Office (including the Telegraph and Packet Services), the Board of Customs, and the Board of Inland Revenue, and directing a detailed test examination of such Accounts under the same Act [29 and 30 Vic., c. 39, Schedule B]	27 March	30 days.

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Title of Paper.	Date of Presentation.	Period (after Presentation) to lie upon the Table.
Factory and Workshop Acts (Notification of Disease) (Mercurial Poisoning),—Copy of Order of the Secretary of State, dated 27th March 1899, applying the provisions of Section 29 of The Factory and Workshop Act, 1895, to cases of Mercurial Poisoning in Factories and Workshops [41 Vic., c. 16, s. 65 (3)]	10 April	40 days.
County Officers and Courts (Ireland) Act, 1877 (Rules),—Copy of Rules, dated the 22nd March 1899, made by the Lord Chancellor and County Court Judges under The Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898 [40 and 41 Vic. c. 56, s. 89]	18 April	100 sitting days.
Inebriate Reformatories (Rules for Management),—Copy of Rules made by the Secretary of State for the domestic Management of the certified Inebriate Reformatory at Brentry, in the County of Gloucester [61 and 62 Vic., c. 60, s. 21 (1)]	19 April	4 weeks (whilst the House is sitting).
Army (Volunteers),—Copy of proposed Amendment of the Scheme relative to the Efficiency of the Volunteers in force under Her Majesty's Orders in Council, dated 31st July 1880, 14th April 1884, &c. [26 and 27 Vic., c. 65, s. 11]	25 April	One lunar month
Inebriate Reformatories (Rules for Management),—Copy of Regulations for the management of the Duxhurst certified Inebriate Reformatory [61 and 62 Vic., c. 60, s. 21 (1)]	26 April	4 weeks (whilst the House is sitting).
Education Department (Evening Continuation Schools),—Copy of Code of Regulations for Evening Continuation Schools, with Explanatory Memorandum, Schedule, and Appendices by the Lords of the Committee of the Privy Council on Education [33 and 34 Vic., c. 75, s. 97]	27 April	One month
Judicial Trustee Rules,—Copy of Additional Rule made by the Lord Chancellor under The Judicial Trustees Act, 1896 [59 and 60 Vic., 35, s. 4 (2)]	27 April	30 days
Education (Scotland) (Evening Continuation Schools),—Copy of Scotch Code of Regulations for Evening Continuation Schools, with Schedule and Appendices [35 and 36 Vic., c. 62, s. 67]	28 April	One month.
Irish Land Commission (Rule),—Copy of Rule issued by the Irish Land Commission, dated 17th April 1899, as to the Service of Originating Notices [44 and 45 Vic., c. 49, s. 50 (3)]	1 May	100 sitting days.
Inebriate Reformatories (Ireland) (Regulations),—Copy of General Regulations for the Management and Discipline of Certified Inebriate Reformatories in Ireland [61 and 62 Vic., c. 60, s. 21 (1)]	8 May	4 weeks (whilst the House is sitting).
Irish Land Commission (Rules),—Copy of Rule made by the Irish Land Commission under the Land Purchase Acts, dated 29th April 1899 [44 and 45 Vic., c. 49, s. 50 (3)]	16 May	100 sitting days.

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Title of Paper.	Date of Presentation.	Period (after Presentation) to lie upon the Table.
Prisons (Ireland),—Copy of Order in Council approving of a Rule made by the General Prisons Board for Ireland, dated 5th May 1899 [40 and 41 Vic., c. 49, s. 57 (c)]	16 May	40 days.
Education (Scotland),—Copy of Minute of the Committee of Council on Education in Scotland, dated 18th May 1899, as to the application of Article 21 and Chapter IX. of the Code of 1899 [35 and 36 Vic., c. 62, s. 67]	18 May	1 month.
Supreme Court of Judicature Act (Ireland), 1877,—Copy of Order in Council, dated 13th May 1899, giving effect to additional Rules of Court under The Supreme Court of Judicature Act (Ireland), 1877 [40 and 41 Vic., c. 57, s. 69]	18 May	100 sitting days.
Public Records (Admiralty),—Copy of Fifth Schedule, containing a List and Particulars of Classes of Documents which have been removed from the Office of the Commissioners for executing the Office of Lord High Admiral of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and deposited in the Public Record Office, but which are not considered of sufficient public value to justify their preservation therein [40 and 41 Vic., c. 55, s. 1]	19 May	4 weeks.
Factory and Workshop Acts (White Lead Factories),—Copy of Special Rules with regard to the employment of persons in White Lead Factories [58 and 59 Vic., c. 37, s. 28 (1)]	1 June	40 days.
Supreme Court of Judicature (Ireland) Act, 1877,—Copies of Four Orders in Council, dated 13th May 1899, giving effect to Rules of Court under The Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898 [40 and 41 Vic., c. 57, s. 69]	1 June	100 sitting days.
Parliamentary Returns,—Copy of Treasury Minute, dated 29th May 1899, directing the discontinuance of the Annual Account, under The Savings Banks Monies Act, 1863, of Assets and Liabilities of the National Debt Commissioners in respect of Trustee Savings Banks [32 and 33 Vic., c. 86, s. 3]	2 June	30 sitting days.
Intermediate Education (Ireland),—Copy of Rule made by the Intermediate Education Board for Ireland appointing the places at which Examinations shall be held for 1899 [41 and 42 Vic., c. 66, s. 6]	6 June	40 days.
Supreme Court of Judicature Act, 1875,—Copy of Order in Council of the 19th May 1899, amending the Order in Council of 28th July 1893, so far as it relates to the South-Eastern Circuit [38 and 39 Vic., c. 77, s. 25]	6 June	40 days.
Public Records (Court of Exchequer),—Copy of Second Schedule containing a List and Particulars of Classes of Documents, which formerly were or ought to have been in the Office of the King's or Queen's Remembrancer of the Exchequer, or of the Clerk appointed to take charge of the Port Bonds or Coast Bonds, and which are now in, but are not considered of sufficient public value to justify their preservation in the Public Record Office [40 and 41 Vic., c. 55, s. 1]	9 June	4 weeks.

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Title of Paper.	Date of Presentation.	Period (after Presentation) to lie upon the Table.
Inebriate Reformatories (Rules for Management),—Copy of Rules made with the approval of the Secretary of State for the Home Department for the domestic Management of the certified Inebriate Reformatory at Horfield, in the county of Gloucester [61 and 62 Vic., c. 60, s. 21 (1)]	13 June	4 weeks (whilst the House is sitting).
Public Records (Treasury),—Copy of Schedule, containing a List and Particulars of Classes of Documents which have been removed from the Office of the Treasury, and deposited in the Public Record Office, but which are not considered of sufficient public value to justify their preservation therein [40 and 41 Vic., c. 55, s. 1]	19 June	4 weeks.
Public Records (War Department),—Copy of Fifth Schedule of Documents which have been removed from the Office of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the War Department, and have been deposited in the Public Record Office, but are not considered of sufficient public value to justify their preservation therein [40 and 41 Vic., c. 55, s. 1]	29 June	4 weeks.
Factory and Workshop Acts (Employment of Women Overtime in Washing Bottles, &c.),—Copy of Order made by the Secretary of State for the Home Department extending to Factories and Workshops in which the Washing of Bottles for use in the preserving of Fruit is carried on, the special exception with respect to the Employment of Women Overtime, contained in section 53 of The Factory and Workshop Act, 1878, as amended by sections 14 and 37 of The Factory and Workshop Act, 1895 [41 Vic., c. 16, s. 65]	30 June	40 days.
Education Department,—Copy of Minute of the Committee of Council on Education, dated 29th June 1899, modifying Articles 37, 42, and 130 (6) of the Day School Code, 1899 [33 and 34 Vic., c. 75, s. 97]	3 July	1 month.
Colonial Fortifications Act, 1877,—Copy of Representations, dated 3rd July 1899, of the Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, that it is expedient that certain properties held in trust for the defence of the Colony of New South Wales should be transferred to the Government of that Colony, and Draft of an Order in Council for giving effect to above Representations [40 and 41 Vic., c. 23, s. 1]	4 July	40 days.
Public Records (War Department),—Copy of Sixth Schedule, containing a List and Particulars of Classes of Documents existing, or in ordinary course about to exist, in the office of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the War Department, which are not considered of sufficient public value to justify their preservation in the Public Record Office [40 and 41 Vic., c. 55, s. 1]	6 July	4 weeks
Local Government (Ireland) Act, 1898,—Copy of Regulations made under the Local Government (Application of Enactments) Order, 1898, as to issue of County Stock [51 and 52 Vic., c. 41, s. 70]	7 July	30 days.

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Title of Paper.	Date of Presentation.	Period (after Presentation) to lie upon the Table.
Army (Volunteers),—Copy of proposed Amendment of the Scheme relative to the efficiency of Volunteers under Her Majesty's Orders in Council, dated 31st July 1880, 14th April 1884, &c.; Draft Efficiency Certificate for the Volunteer Medical Staff Corps [26 and 27 Vic. c. 65, s. 11]	11 July	One lunar month.
Factory and Workshop Acts (Different Meal Hours) (Spinning of Artificial Silk),—Copy of Order made by the Secretary of State for the Home Department, dated 20th July 1899, extending to Factories or Workshops in which the spinning of Artificial Silk is carried on the special exceptions with regard to Meal Hours contained in Section 52 of The Factory and Workshop Act, 1878 [41 Vic. c. 16, s. 65 (3)]	26 July	40 days.
Irish Land Commission (Rules),—Copy of Rule, dated 20th July 1899, in relation to proceedings under the Land Law (Ireland) Acts [44 and 45 Vic. c. 49, s. 50 (3)]	1 July	100 sitting days.
Education Department (Evening Continuation Schools),—Copy of Minute of the Committee of Council on Education, dated 4th August 1899, modifying Articles 15 and 15* of The Evening Continuation Schools Code, 1899 [33 and 34 Vic. c. 75, s. 97]	4 August	One month.

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NOTICES OF MOTIONS

WHICH NOW STAND IN THE ORDER BOOK OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

FOR THE NEXT SESSION.

1. Sir John Colomb,—Naval Ports (Works and Garrisons),—To call attention to the growth of War Office expenditure on Works and Garrisons at Naval Ports; and to move, That, having regard to the fact that the liability of Ports to attack from the sea is a Naval and not a Military question, this House is of opinion that the extent and nature of the local defence of Naval and Commercial Ports should be determined by the Admiralty, and that the cost of such local defence as may be necessary should be charged to the Navy and not to the Army Estimates.

2. Mr. Courtney,—London Municipalities (Eligibility of Women),—Bill to amend The London Government Act, 1899, in respect of the Eligibility of Women as Councillors and Aldermen.

3. Sir Charles Dilke,—Indian Budget,—That it is desirable either that the East India Revenue Accounts should be debated on an earlier day in each Session, or that a token vote in respect of the Salary of the Secretary of State for India should be placed on the Estimates, and an additional day in Supply given for its discussion.

4. Mr. Herbert Lewis,—Piers and Harbours,—That, in the opinion of this House, in the interests of trade and communication by sea between places on the coast of Wales, and with a view to the protection and development of sea fisheries and the safety of the persons engaged in them, it is desirable that a Departmental Committee be appointed to inquire in what way, and to what extent, the existing provisions of Piers and Harbours on that coast should be improved.

5. Mr. Herbert Lewis,—Legislation by Reference,—That in the opinion of this House, the existing practice of legislating by reference to clauses and provisions of existing Acts of Parliament gives rise to great inconvenience, and should be restricted.

6. Sir Albert Rollit,—Parliamentary Procedure,—To call attention to Parliamentary Procedure, and to move, That the consideration of Bills which have passed through Committee ought to be resumed at the same stage in the following Session of the same Parliament.

7. Sir Albert Rollit,—Joint Stock Companies,—That reform of the Law relating to Joint Stock Companies is urgently required in the interest of commerce, and that legislation, based on the Report and Draft Bill of the Board of Trade Departmental Committee on the subject, ought not to be longer delayed.

8. Sir Albert Rollit,—County Courts Jurisdiction,—Bill to extend the Jurisdiction and amend the procedure and practice of the County Courts.

9. Sir Mark Stewart,—Opium,—That, in view of the grave objections to which the manufacture and sale of Opium for smoking purposes by the Indian Government are open, and in view of the declared policy of this Country to help China in the paths of reform, it is incumbent on the British Government to take whatever steps may be necessary for bringing such manufacture and sale to an early close.

10 Sir John Stirling-Maxwell,—Education of the Blind (Scotland),—Bill to confer powers on Parish Councils in Scotland to continue the Education of Blind Persons up to the age of twenty-one.

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GENERAL INDEX

TO THE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(AUTHORISED EDITION),

IN THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE TWENTY-SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF THE

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

62° ET 63° VICTORIÆ.

1899.

EXPLANATION OF ARRANGEMENT AND ABBREVIATIONS.

Bills: Read First, Second, or Third Time = 1R., 2R., 3R. [*c.*] = Commons. [*l.*] = Lords. *Amendt.* = Amendment. *Os.* = Observations. *Qs.* = Questions. *As.* = Answers. *Com.* = Committee. *Con.* = Consideration. *Rep.* = Report. *S.* = Debate in Committee of Supply.

Where in the Index * is added with Reading of a Bill, or a Vote in Committee of Supply, it indicates that no Debate took place on that Stage of the Bill, or on that Vote.

Subjects discussed in Committee of Supply and on the Address in Answer to the Queen's Speech are entered under their headings, and also under Members' Names, without reference to the actual Vote before the Committee or the Queen's Speech. The abbreviation "*S*" has been adopted as explanation under the subjects discussed in Committee of Supply.

Where the Volume is not repeated it will be understood that the subject refers to the Volume of the previous entry.

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2R.* *May 15* [71] 564.
*Rep.** *June 5* [72] 290.
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*Rep.** *May 18*, 906.
*Con.** *May 19*, 1016.
3R.* *May 31* [72] 3.
l. 2R.* *June 15*, 1167.
*Rep.** *June 16*, 1319.
3R.* *June 19*, 1455.
Royal Assent, *June 20* [73] 2.

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c. 1R.* *Mar. 28* [69] 630.
2R.* *Apr. 19*, 1537.
*Rep.** *May 16* [71] 725.
3R.* *May 17*, 887.
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*Rep.** *June 26*, 532.
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c. 1R.* *Apr. 11* [69] 775.
2R.* *May 1* [70] 945.
*Rep.** *May 12* [71] 467.
3R.* *May 15*, 581.
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l. 2R.* *June 6* [72] 413; *June 8*, 879.
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c. 1R.* *Apr. 11* [69] 775.
2R.* *May 9* [71] 137.
*Rep.** *May 18*, 905.
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3R.* *May 31* [72] 3.
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2R.* *May 1* [70] 945.
*Rep.** *June 9* [72] 758.
3R.* *June 12*, 890.
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*Com.** *June 30*, 1111.
3R.* *July 3*, 1231.
Royal Assent, July 13 [74] 661.

Electric Lighting Provisional Orders [No. 8] Bill

c. 1R.* *Apr. 11* [69] 776.
2R.* *May 8* [71] 25.
*Rep.** *May 18*, 905.
*Con.** *May 19*, 1017.
3R.* *May 31* [72] 3.
l. 1R.* *June 1*, 68.
2R.* *June 22* [73] 231.
*Rep.** *June 26*, 532.
3R.* *June 27*, 706.
Royal Assent, July 13 [74] 661.

Electric Lighting Provisional Orders [No. 9] Bill

l. 1R.* *Apr. 21* [70] 180.
2R., *May 12* [71] 433.
*Rep.** *June 9* [72] 753.
3R.* *June 12*, 879.
c. 1R.* *June 13*, 1055.
2R.* *June 27* [73] 756.
*Rep.** *July 5*, 1513.
3R.* *July 6* [74] 8.
l. *Royal Assent, July 13*, 661.

Electric Lighting Provisional Orders [No. 10] Bill

l. 1R.* *Apr. 21* [70] 180.
2R.* *May 16* [71] 690.
*Rep.** *June 9* [72] 753; *June 12*, 879.
3R.* *June 13*, 994.
c. 1R.* *June 15*, 1175.
2R.* *June 30*, 1132.
*Rep.** *July 14* [74] 866.
3R.* *July 17*, 988.
l. *Royal Assent, Aug. 1* [75] 965.

Electric Lighting Provisional Orders [No. 11] Bill

l. 1R.* *Apr. 21* [70] 181.
2R.* *May 16* [71] 690.
*Rep.** *June 9* [72] 753.
3R.* *June 12*, 879.
c. 1R.* *June 13*, 1055.
*Rep.** *July 14* [74] 866.
3R.* *July 17*, 988.
l. *Royal Assent, Aug. 1* [75] 265.

Electric Lighting Provisional Orders [No. 12] Bill

l. 1R.* *May 1* [70] 925.
2R.* *June 6* [72] 413.
*Com.** *June 13*, 995.
*Rep.** *June 16*, 1319.
3R.* *June 19*, 1455.
c. 1R.* *June 20* [73] 58.
2R.* *July 7* [74] 160
*Rep.** *July 20*, 1357.
3R.* *July 21*, 1532.
l. *Royal Assent, Aug. 1* [75] 965.

Electric Lighting Provisional Orders [No. 13] Bill

l. 1R.* *May 1* [70] 926.
2R.* *June 6* [72] 413.
*Com.** *June 13*, 995; *June 19*, 1455.
*Rep.** *June 20* [73] 6.
3R.* *June 22*, 230.
c. 1R.* *June 23*, 434.
2R.* *July 7* [74] 160.
*Rep.** *July 20*, 1358.
3R.* *July 21*, 1532.
l. *Royal Assent, Aug. 1* [75] 965.

Electric Lighting Provisional Orders [No. 14] Bill

l. 1R.* *May 1* [70] 926.
2R.* *June 2* [72] 162.
*Com.** *June 13*, 995.
3R.* *June 15*, 1167.
c. 1R.* *June 16*, 1331.
2R.* *July 4* [73] 1403.
*Rep.** *July 14* [74] 866.
3R.* *July 17*, 988.
l. *Royal Assent, Aug. 1* [75] 965.

Electric Lighting Provisional Orders [No. 15] Bill

l. 1R.* *May 1* [70] 926.
2R.* *June 6* [72] 413.
*Com.** *June 13*, 995.
*Rep.** *June 16*, 1319.
3R.* *June 19*, 1455.
c. 1R.* *June 20* [73] 58.
2R.* *July 4*, 1403.
*Rep.** *July 14* [74] 866.
3R.* *July 17*, 988.
l. *Royal Assent, Aug. 1* [75] 965.

Electric Lighting Provisional Orders [No. 16] Bill

c. 1R.* *May 9* [71] 138.
2R.* *June 5* [72] 296.
*Rep.** *June 16*, 1330.
*Con.** *June 19*, 1477.
3R.* *June 20* [73] 55.

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l. 1R.* *June 22*, 231.
2R.* *June 27*, 705.
*Com.** *June 30*, 1111.
3R.* *July 3*, 1231.
Royal Assent, July 13 [74] 661.

Electric Lighting Provisional Orders [No. 17] Bill
c. 1R.* *May 15* [71] 582.
2R.* *June 6* [72] 431.
*Rep.** *June 27* [73] 756.
*Con.** *June 28*, 873.
3R.* *July 3*, 1267.
l. 1R.* *July 3*, 1231.
2R., *July 11* [74] 427.
*Com.** *July 20*, 1345.
3R.* *July 24* [75] 3.
Royal Assent, Aug. 1, 965.

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c. 1R.* *May 15* [71] 582.
2R.* *June 6* [72] 432.
*Rep.** *June 16*, 1330.
3R.* *June 19*, 1476.
l. 1R.* *June 20* [73] 6.
2R.* *June 26*, 532.
*Com.** *June 27*, 706.
3R.* *June 29*, 944.
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2R.* *June 6* [72] 432.
*Rep.** *June 16*, 1330.
3R.* *June 19*, 1476.
l. 1R.* *June 20* [73] 6.
2R.* *June 26*, 532.
*Com.** *June 27*, 706.
3R.* *June 29*, 944.
Royal Assent, July 13 [74] 661.

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2R.* *June 20* [73] 55.
*Rep.** *July 7* [74] 160.
3R.* *July 10*, 298.
l. 1R.* *July 10*, 275.
2R.* *July 14*, 862.
*Com.** *July 17*, 957.
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Q. Mr. M'Hugh; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *Mar. 23* [69] 133.

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Q. Mr. Abraham; *A.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *May 5* [70] 1428.

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Q. Mr. Macaleese; *A.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *Mar. 17* [68] 1139; *Q.* Mr. W. Johnston; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *June 16* [72] 1343; *Q.* Dr. Ambrose; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *July 10* [74] 315.

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Q. Mr. Davitt; *A.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *Feb. 16* [66] 1114.

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Q. Mr. T. M. Healy; *A.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *July 25* [75] 245.

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Q. Mr. Johnston; *A.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *July 24* [75] 90.

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Qs. Mr. Field, Mr. Redmond; *As.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *Feb. 17* [66] 1275.

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Q. Mr. Clancy; *A.* Mr. Anstruther *May 5* [70] 1429.

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Q. Mr. Crilly; *A.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *June 13* [72] 1074.

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Q. Mr. Monaghan; *A.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *July 6* [74] 32.

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Q. Mr. Johnston; *A.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *July 31* [75] 853.

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Q. Mr. Field; *A.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *Aug. 1* [75] 1060.

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Parliamentary Secretary—T. W. Russell, Esq.
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Q. Mr. Hazell; *A.* Mr. T. W. Russell, *July 25* [75] 237.
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Q. Mr. Power; *A.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *July 6* [74] 36.
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LOCAL GOVERNMENT, IRELAND, ACT
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Q. Mr. Macaleese; *A.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *July 20* [74] 1386.
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Q. Mr. Tully; *A.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *June 6* [72] 439.

Local Government [Ireland Provisional Orders [No. 1] Bill
c. 1R.* *May 12* [71] 467.
2R.* *June 2* [72] 168.
*Rep.** *June 9*, 757.
3R.* *June 12*, 890.

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Local Government [Ireland] Provisional Orders [No. 1] Bill—cont.

l. 1R.* *June 13*, 995.
2R.* *June 27* [73] 705.
*Rep.** *July 3*, 1231.
3R.* *July 4*, 1391.
Royal Assent, July 13 [74] 662.

Local Government [Ireland] Provisional Orders [No. 2] Bill

c. 1R.* *May 12* [71] 467.
2R.* *June 5* [72] 296.
*Rep.** *June 16*, 1329.
3R.* *June 19*, 1476.
l. 1R.* *June 20* [73] 6.
2R.* *June 27*, 705.
*Rep.** *July 3*, 1231.
3R.* *July 4*, 1391.
Royal Assent, July 13 [74] 662.

Local Government [Ireland] Provisional Orders [No. 3] Bill

c. 1R.* *May 16* [71] 724.
2R.* *June 6* [72] 432.
*Rep.** *June 16*, 1329.
3R.* *June 19*, 1476.
l. 2R.* *June 27* [73] 705.
Rep., *July 3*, 1231.
3R.* *July 4*, 1391.
Royal Assent, July 13 [74] 662.

Local Government [Ireland] Provisional Orders [No. 4] Bill

c. 1R.* *June 1* [72] 77.
2R.* *June 12*, 890.
*Rep.** *June 23* [73] 431.
3R.* *June 26*, 584.
l. 1R.* *June 26*, 529.
2R.* *June 27*, 705.
*Com.** *July 3*, 1230.
*Rep.** *July 11* [74] 426.
3R.* *July 13*, 665.
Royal Assent, Aug. 1 [75] 965.

Local Government [Ireland] Provisional Order [Housing of Working Classes] Bill

c. 1R.* *May 16* [71] 724.

Local Government [Ireland] Provisional Orders [Housing of Working Classes] Bill. [No. 2.]

c. 1R.* *May 19* [71] 1017.
2R.* *June 12* [72] 890.
*Rep.** *June 20* [73] 56.
3R.* *June 21*, 161.
l. 1R.* *June 22*, 231.
2R.* *June 27*, 705.
*Com.** *June 29*, 943.
*Rep.** *July 3*, 1231.
3R.* *July 4*, 1391.
Royal Assent, July 13 [74] 662.

Local Government Provisional Orders [No. 1] Bill

c. 1R.* *Mar. 28* [69] 630.
2R.* *Apr. 14*, 114.
*Rep.** *Apr. 21* [70] 201.
3R.* *Apr. 21*, 363.

Local Government Provisional Orders [No. 1] Bill—cont.

l. 1R.* *Apr. 25*, 506.
3R.* *May 9* [71] 132.
Com., *May 8* [72] 5.
Royal Assent, June 6, 409.

Local Government Provisional Orders [No. 2] Bill

c. 1R.* *Apr. 24* [70] 364.
2R.* *May 10* [71] 225.
*Rep.** *June 16* [72] 1329.
Com., *June 19*, 1477.
3R.* *June 20* [73] 55.
l. 1R.* *June 22*, 231.
2R.* *June 27*, 704.
*Com.** *June 29*, 943; *July 3*, 1230.
3R.* *July 4*, 1391.
Royal Assent, July 13 [74] 661.

Local Government Provisional Orders [No. 3] Bill

c. 1R.* *Apr. 24* [70] 364.
2R.* *May 3*, 1222.
*Rep.** *May 18* [71] 905.
3R.* *May 19*, 1016.
l. 1R.* *June 1* [72] 68; *June 20* [73] 6.
2R.* *June 22*, 231.
*Com.** *June 23*, 373.
3R.* *June 26*, 531.
Royal Assent, July 13 [74] 661.

Local Government Provisional Orders [No. 4] Bill

c. 1R.* *May 11* [71] 319.
2R.* *June 2* [72] 168.
*Rep.** *June 21* [73] 228.
*Con.** *June 22*, 260.
3R.* *June 23*, 414.
l. 1R.* *June 23*, 371.
2R.* *June 27*, 704.
Com., *June 30*, 1110; *July 18* [74] 1123.
Rep. from Select Com., *July 11*, 425.
*Rep.** *July 13*, 666; *July 20*, 1347.
3R.* *July 21*, 1500.
c. Lords Amendts., *July 25* [75] 217.
l. Royal Assent, Aug. 1, 965.

Local Government Provisional Orders [No. 5] Bill

c. 1R.* *May 11* [71] 319.
2R.* *June 2* [72] 168.
3R.* *June 12*, 890.
l. 1R.* *June 13*, 995.
2R.* *June 27* [73] 704.
*Com.** *July 3*, 1230.
3R.* *July 4*, 1391.
Royal Assent, July 13 [74] 661.

Local Government Provisional Orders [No. 6] Bill

c. 1R.* *May 11* [71] 319.
2R.* *June 2* [72] 168.
*Rep.** *June 9*, 757; *June 21* [73] 162; *June 28*, 937.
3R.* *June 29*, 964.
l. 1R.* *June 29*, 944.
2R.* *July 11* [74] 427.
*Rep.** *July 13*, 645.
3R.* *July 24* [75] 3.
Royal Assent, Aug. 1, 965.

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Local Government Provisional Orders [No. 7] Bill

c. 1R.* *May 12* [71] 466.
2R.* *June 2* [72] 168.
*Rep.** *June 16*, 1329.
*Con.** *June 19*, 1477.
3R.* *June 20* [73] 55.
l. 1R.* *June 22*, 231.
2R.* *June 27*, 704.
*Com.** *June 29*, 943; *July 3*, 1230.
3R.* *July 4*, 1391.
Royal Assent, *July 13* [74] 661.

Local Government Provisional Orders [No. 8] Bill

c. 1R.* *May 12* [71] 466.
2R.* *June 2* [72] 168.
*Rep.** *June 9*, 757.
*Con.** *June 12*, 890.
3R.* *June 13*, 1054.
l. 1R.* *June 15*, 1166.
2R.* *June 27* [73] 704.
*Com.** *July 3*, 1230.
3R.* *July 4*, 1391.
Royal Assent, *July 13* [74] 661.

Local Government Provisional Orders [No. 9] Bill

c. 1R.* *May 16* [71] 724.
2R.* *June 6* [72] 432.
*Rep.** *June 20* [73] 56.
*Con.** *June 21*, 161.
3R.* *June 22*, 259.
l. 1R.* *June 22*, 231.
2R.* *June 27*, 705.
*Com.** *June 29*, 943; *July 11* [74] 427.
*Rep.** *July 13*, 665.
3R.* *July 18*, 1124.
c. *Lords Amendts.*, *July 21*, 1532.
l. *Royal Assent*, *Aug. 1* [75] 965.

Local Government Provisional Orders [No. 10] Bill

c. 1R.* *May 16* [71] 724.
2R.* *June 6* [72] 432.
*Rep.** *June 30* [73] 1132.
3R.* *July 3*, 1267.
l. 1R.* *July 3*, 1231.
2R.* *July 11* [74] 427.
Com.—Attendance of F. Stevens ordered, *June 21* [73] 161, 260.
*Rep.** *July 13* [74] 665.
3R.* *July 18*, 1124.
Royal Assent, *Aug. 1* [75] 965.

Local Government Provisional Orders [No. 11] Bill

c. 1R.* *May 16* [71] 724.
2R.* *June 6* [72] 432.
*Rep.** *June 20* [73] 56.
*Con.** *June 21*, 161.
3R.* *June 22*, 259.
l. 1R.* *June 22*, 231.
2R.* *June 27*, 705.
*Com.** *June 29*, 943.
*Rep.** *July* 3, 1231.
3R.* *July 4*, 1391.
Royal Assent, *July 13* [74] 661.

Local Government Provisional Orders [No. 12] Bill

c. 1R.* *May 17* [71] 887.
2R.* *June 6* [72] 432.
*Rep.** *June 23* [73] 431.
3R.* *June 26*, 584.
l. 1R.* *June 26*, 529.
2R.* *June 27*, 705.
*Com.** *July 3*, 1230; *July 10* [74] 274; *July 18*, 1124.
*Rep.** *July 20*, 1347.
3R.* *July 21*, 1500.
c. *Lords Amendts.*, *July 25* [75] 217.
l. *Royal Assent*, *Aug. 1*, 965.

Local Government Provisional Orders [No 13] Bill

c. 1R.* *May. 17* [71] 888.
2R.* *June 6* [72] 432.
*Rep.** *June 16*, 1330.

Local Government Provisional Orders [No. 14] Bill

c. 1R.* *May 19* [71] 1017.
2R.* *June 6* [72] 432.
3R.* *June 27* [73] 756.
l. 1R.* *June 27*, 706.
2R.* *July 11* [74] 427.
Com., *July 20*, 1346.
*Rep.** *July 25* [75] 190.
3R.* *July 27*, 434.
c. *Lords Amendts.*, *July 31*, 841.
l. *Royal Assent*, *Aug. 9* [76] 256.

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c. Order for Re-com. discharged, etc. *June 27* [73] 756.
Rep. from Select Com., *July 13* [74] 710.
Con., *July 14*, 864.
3R., *July 17*, 988.
l. 1R.* *July 17*, 957.
2R., *July 24* [75] 3.
*Rep.** *July 25*, 190.
3R.* *July 27*, 434.
Royal Assent, *Aug. 1*, 965.

Local Government Provisional Orders [Gas] Bill

c. 1R.* *May 11* [71] 318.
2R.* *June 2* [72] 168.
*Rep.** *June 10* [73] 56.
*Con.** *June 21*, 161
3R.* *June 22*, 259.
l. 1R.* *June 22*, 231.
2R.* *June 27*, 704.
*Com.** *June 29*, 943.
*Rep.** *July 3*, 1231.
3R.* *July 4*, 1391.
Royal Assent, *July 13* [74] 661.

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Local Government Provisional Order [Housing of Working Classes] Bill
c. 1R.* *May 11* [71] 318.
2R.* *June 2* [72] 168; *June 6*, 432.
*Rep.** *June 9*, 757.
3R.* *June 12*, 890.
l. 1R.* *June 13*, 995.
2R.* *June 27* [73] 704.
*Rep.** *July 3*, 1231.
3R.* *July 4*, 1391.
Royal Assent, July 13 [74] 661.

Local Government Provisional Orders [Poor Law] Bill
c. 1R.* *May 6* [71] 724.
2R.* *June 2* [72] 168.
*Rep.** *June 9*, 757.
3R.* *June 12*, 890.
l. 1R.* *June 13*, 995.
2R.* *June 27* [73] 704.
*Rep.** *July 3*, 1231.
3R.* *July 4*, 1391.
Royal Assent, July 13 [74] 661.

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT [SCOTLAND] ACT, 1889
Return, *May 18* [71] 908; *July 10* [74] 300.

Local Government [Scotland] Act [1894] Amendment Bill
c. 1R.* *May 5* [70] 1418.

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Local Government [Scotland] Act [1894] Amendment [No. 2] Bill
c. 1R.* *May 9* [71] 140.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT [SCOTLAND] ACT [1894] AMENDMENT [NO. 2] BILL
Petitions, *June 9* [72] 760; *June 16*, 1332.

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c. 1R.* *July 18* [74] 1176.

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Petitions, *May 15* [71] 585; *May 19*, 1018; *June 2* [72] 174; *June 9*, 760.

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Road Contractors, Disqualification of—Local Government Act.
Q. Mr. Flynn; *A.* Mr. Atkinson, *Aug. 3* [75], 1299.
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Q. Mr. Hemphill; *A.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *July 25* [75], 243.
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Q. Mr. Coghill; *A.* Mr. Chaplin, *Mar. 14* [68] 767.
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Q. Mr. Channing; *A.* Mr. Chaplin. *Aug. 3* [75] 1291.
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Q. Mr. Moulton; *A.* Mr. Collings, *Mar. 28* [69] 643; *Q.* Mr. Trevelyan; *A.* Mr. Collings, *Apr. 11*, 782.
Minutes of Evidence, *May 31* [72] 7; *June 1*, 68.
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Q. Mr. R. G. Webster; *A.* Mr. A. J. Balfour, *June 29* [73], 999.
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Qs. Sir C. Cameron, Mr. Weir; *As.* Mr. A. G. Murray, *June 27* [73] 764.
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Q. Mr. Hobhouse; *A.* Mr. Ritchie; *Mar. 16* [66] 1124; *Q.* Mr. Johnson-Ferguson; *A.* Mr. T. W. Russell, *Feb. 21* [67] 34.
Valuations and Assessment, Return, *Motion* [Lord Balfour of Burleigh] *Aug. 3* [75] 1256.

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Q. Mr. Tennant; *A.* Sir M. W. Ridley, *July 20* [74] 1376.

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Q. Mr. M'Ghee; *A.* Mr. Chaplin, *Mar. 7* [68] 34.

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c. 1R.* *Feb. 14* [66] 835.
2R.* *Feb 27* [67] 591.
l. 2R.* *May 12* [71] 431.
*Rep.** *June 8* [72] 594.
3R.* *June 13*, 996.
*Lords Amendts.** *June 19*, 1475.
Royal Assent, *July 13* [74] 662.

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c. 2R.* *Mar. 15* [68] 481.
*Rep.** *May 9* [71] 138.
*Con.** *May 15*, 581.
3R.* *May 18*, 904.
l. 1R.* *May 18*, 893.
2R.* *June 8* [72] 594.
Rep. from Select Com., *July 10* [74] 274.
3R.* *July 31* [74] 1499.
c. Lords Amendts., *July 27* [75] 480.
l. Royal Assent, *Aug. 1*, 967.

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Q. Mr. Maddison; *A.* Mr. Ritchie, *June 15* [72] 1183.

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2R.* *Mar. 3* [67] 1181.
*Con.** *May 15* [71] 581.
3R.* *May 18*, 904.
l. 1R.* *May 18*, 893.
2R.* *June 9* [72] 750.
*Rep.** *June 22* [73] 229.
3R.* *June 30*, 1110.
c. Lords Amendts., *July 7* [74] 160.
l. Royal Assent, *July 13*, 663.

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Estimate of Expenditure, *June 29* [72] 1479.
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Science and Art Classes, *See* London School Board.

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c. 1R.* *Feb. 14* [66] 835.
2R., *Mar. 9* [68] 258.
*Rep.** *May 9* [71] 138; *June 20* [73] 57.
*Con.** *June 13* [72] 1005.
3R.* *June 26* [73] 582.
l. 1R.* *June 26*, 531.
2R.* *June 27*, 704.
*Com.** *July 16* [74] 275.
*Rep.** *July 17*, 957.
Rep. from Select Com., *July 20*, 1346.
3R.* *July 27* [75] 433.
c. Lords Amendts., *Aug. 1*, 1013.
l. Royal Assent, *Aug. 9* [76] 256.

London County Council [Money] Bill

c. 1R.* *Apr. 17* [69] 1266.
2R.* *Apr. 26* [70] 601.
*Rep.** *June 9* [72] 757.
*Con.** *June 16*, 1328.
3R.* *June 20*, 39.
l. 1R.* *June 20* [73] 4.
2R.* *June 27*, 703.
*Rep.** *July 20* [74] 1346.
3R.* *July 27* [75] 433.
c. Lords Amendts., *Aug. 1*, 1013.
l. Royal Assent, *Aug. 9* [76] 257.
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Q. Mr. Pickersgill; *A.* Mr. A. J. Balfour, *July 31* [75] 855.

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c. 1R., *Feb. 23* [67] 352.
2R., *Mar 23* [69] 159; *Mar. 24*, 370.
Com., *Apr. 24* [70] 440; *Apr. 25*, 533; *Apr. 27*, 719; *May 4*, 1321; *May 8* [71] 61; *May 9*, 159; *May 15*, 608; *May 16*, 754; *May 18*, 966.
Con., *June 6* [72] 460; *June 8*, 699.
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3R., 1080.
l. 1R.* *June 15*, 1168.
2R., *June 20* [73] 7.
Com., *June 26*, 537; *June 27*, 707.
Rep., *July 3* [73] 1233.
3R., *July 4*, 1394.
c. Lords Amendts., *July 6* [74] 43.
l. Commons Amendts., *July 7*, 158.
Royal Assent, *July 13*, 661.

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Qs. Mr. Marks; *As.* Sir R. Webster, Mr. A. J. Balfour, *Mar. 3* [67] 1231; *Q.* Mr. Buxton; *A.* Mr. A. J. Balfour, *Mar. 6* [67] 1365; *Q.* Mr. Bartley; *A.* Mr. A. J. Balfour, *Mar. 13* [68] 538; *Qs.* Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman, Dr. Farquharson; *As.* Mr. A. J. Balfour, *Mar. 15* [68] 1157; *Qs.* Mr. Steadman, Mr. Channing; *As.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *Apr. 10* [69] 692; *Q.* Col. M'Calmont; *A.* Mr. A. J. Balfour, *Apr. 17* [69] 1286; *Qs.* Mr. Cowen, Capt. Pirie, Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman, Mr. T. G. Bowles; *As.* Mr. A. J. Balfour, *Apr. 21* [70] 218; *Q.* Earl

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Q. Mr. Stephens; *A.* Mr. A. J. Balfour, *May 12* [71] 490.

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l. 1R.* *Feb. 14* [66] 810.
2R.* *Mar. 6* [67] 1330.
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Rep., *May 4* [70] 1278.
3R.* *May 9* [71] 131.
c. 1R.* *May 12*, 470.
2R.* *May 31* [72] 2.
*Rep.** *June 9*, 758.
3R.* *June 13*, 1002.
l. Royal Assent, *June 20* [73] 2.

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c. 1R.* *Feb. 14* [66] 836.
2R.* *Feb 28* [67] 761.
*Rep.** *May 8* [71] 26.
*Com.** *June 7* [72] 537.
3R.* *June 12*, 890.
l. 1R.* *June 13*, 994.
2R.* *June 22* [73] 230.
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3R.* *Aug. 3* [75] 1209.
c. Lords Amendts., *Aug. 4*, 1452.
l. Royal Assent, *Aug. 9* [76] 257.

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Qs. Mr. E. Cecil; *As.* Mr. Chaplin, *Feb. 20* [66] 1445; *May 11* [71] 337; *Q.* Mr. Flower; *A.* Mr. Chaplin, *May 16*, 738.

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c. 1R.* *Feb. 14* [66] 836.
2R.* *Apr. 10* [69] 678.
*Rep.** *June 23* [73] 432.
3R.* *June 26*, 583.
l. 2R.* *July 4*, 1390.
*Rep.** *July 13* [74] 861.
3R.* *July 18*, 1122.
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l. Royal Assent, *Aug. 1*, 966.

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2R.* *May 15* [72] 581.
*Rep.** *June 20*, 57.
3R.* *June 23*, 400.
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2R.* *July 13* [74] 664.
*Rep.** *July 25* [73] 189.
3R.* *July 31*, 797.
c. Lords Amendts., *Aug. 3* [75] 1264.
l. Royal Assent, *Aug. 9* [76] 257.

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3R.* *June 6*, 430.
l. 1R.* *June 8*, 595.
2R.* *June 27* [73] 703.
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3R.* *Aug. 3*, 1263.
l. Commons Amendts., Aug. 4, 1422.
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2R.* *Mar. 7* [68] 2.
Com. Mar. 14*, 665.
Rep. May 9* [71] 138.
Con. May 15*, 580.
3R.* *May 18*, 904.
l. 1R.* *May 18*, 893.
2R.* *June 27* [73] 703.
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3R.* *July 18*, 1122.
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Q. Mr. J. P. Smith; *A.* Sir M. Hicks-Beach, *June 16* [72] 1340.

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Finance Bill, *May 1* [70] 999; *May 2*, [72] 1133; *May 11* [71] 363, 415; *May 12*, 503.

References to in Debate on Budget, *Apr.* 31 [69] 1026, 1036, 1038, 1045, 1049, 1056, 1063, 1067, 1078, 1086, 1091, 1098; *Apr. 20* [70] 90, 105, 108, 113, 114, 120, 128, 140, 173.

Resolution, *Apr. 13* [69] 1108.

Statement, *Apr 13* [69] 1002, 1007.

Charges—Treasury Minute, *Apr. 13* [69] 967.

Reduction—Budget Statement, *Apr. 13* [69] 1011.

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Sinking Fund Account, *June 2* [72] 169.

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Os. Mr. Weir, Mr. Hanbury, *May 19* [71] 1056.

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Q. Mr. T. M. Healy; *A.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *July 25* [75] 245.

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Report, *Aug. 7* [76] 5; *Aug. 8*, 145.
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NATIONAL GALLERY, ETC., SCOTLAND

Annual Report, *Apr. 25* [70] 505.
Vote for, *Aug. 3* [75] 1333.

NATIONAL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE, *See* Revenue and Expenditure.

NATIONAL LIBRARY, IRELAND, *See* Ireland.

National Monuments in Churches Bill

l. 1R.* *Apr. 17* [69] 1260.
2R., *Apr. 24* [70] 358.
*Com.** *Apr. 28*, 805.
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3R.* *May 4*, 1289.
c. 1R.* *May 9* [71] 140.

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Money Available for Purchase of Pictures
Correspondence between Trustees and the Treasury
References to in Debate in Com. of Supply, *Aug. 3* [75] 1321.

Return, *July 3* [73] 1270; *July 10* [74] 299; *July 11*, 464.

Report, *June 7* [72] 539; *June 8* [72] 596.

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Wilkie's Portrait of the Queen, etc., Marquess of Normanby's Offer
Q. Mr. Newdigate; *A.* Sir M. Hicks-Beach, *Aug. 1* [75] 1044.

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Q. Mr. P. O'Brien; *A.* Sir M. Hicks-Beach, *Feb. 23* [67] 280; *Q.* Mr. M'Ghee; *A.* Mr. C. W. Balfour, *Mar. 2*, 1045; *Q.* Mr. Donelan; *A.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *Mar. 3*, 1217.

Assistant Teachers
Pension Fund
Q. Mr. Flavin; *A.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *June 19* [72] 1494.

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Q. Mr. Flynn; *A.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *May 8* [71] 38.

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Q. Mr. Macaleese; *A.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *Mar. 16* [68] 972; *Q.* Mr. Davitt; *A.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *June 12* [72] 902.

Guardians, Teachers as—Case of Mr. Kenny
Q. Mr. Tully; *A.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *June 5* [72] 304.

O'Donoghue, Mr. T., Application for Fee Grant Arrears
Q. Mr. Davitt; *A.* Sir M. Hicks-Beach, *May 18* [71] 933.

Pensions Fund, Receipts and Payments
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Promotion of
Q. Mr. Macaleese; *A.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *June 30* [73] 1150.

Salaries, Classification of
Q. Mr. Macaleese; *A.* Mr. G. W. Balfour *June 6* [72] 438.

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Ulster and Connaught
Q. Mr. Field; *A.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *June 13* [72] 1070.

NATIONAL TELEPHONE CO.

Q. Mr. Field; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *Mar. 24* [69] 322.

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Q. Mr. Kimber; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *July 10* [74] 316.

Subscribers, Intercommunication with other systems
Qs. Sir J. Woodhouse, Mr. Provand; *As.* Mr. Hanbury, *Aug. 9* [76] 264.

Telegraphs [Telephonic Communication, etc.] Bill
Q. Mr. Kimber; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *July 3* [73] 1280.

Circular—Alleged Breach of Parliamentary Usage
Q. Mr. F. Begg; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *June 26* [73] 607; Debate (*c.*) 608.

National Telephone Company [No. 1] Bill

c. Rep. Mar. 8* [68] 165.
1R.* *Mar. 9*, 262.

National Telephone Company [No. 2] Bill

c. Rep. Mar. 8* [68] 165.
1R.* *Mar. 9*, 262.

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Qs. Sir M. Wedderburn, Mr. Lewis; *As.* Lord G. Hamilton, *Apr. 20* [70] 51; *May 4*, 1314; *Q.* Mr. Davitt; *A.* Lord G. Hamilton *June 29* [73] 974.

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Vote for, *Aug. 3* [75] 1317.

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Carnegie, Mr. Andrew, Appointment as Justice of the Peace for Sutherlandshire
Q. Mr. T. B. Curran; A. Mr. G. Murray, *Aug. 7* [76] 35.

Certificates, obtaining from Secretary of State
Q. Mr. MacNeill; *A.* Mr. J. Collings, *June 15* [72] 1185.

Conditions of
Q. Mr. C. H. Wilson; *A.* Mr. Brodrick, *July 14* [74] 875.

Reduction of Period of Residence—Legislation
Q. Mr. Nussey; *A.* Mr. A. J. Balfour, *July 28* [75] 682.

Return, Addresses for [Mr. Collings], *Feb. 14* [66] 847; Return presented, *Apr. 10* [69] 684.

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Transvaal
Qs. Mr. B. Roberts; *As.* Mr. J. Chamberlain, *May 18* [71] 917; *June 16* [72] 1337; *Qs.* Mr. B. Roberts, Mr. Nussey; *As.* Sir R. B. Finlay, *July 27* [75] 506.

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Qs. Sir J. Colomb; *As.* Mr. Wyndham, *June 27* [73] 759; *June 29*, 971.

Grant, Major, Promotion of
Qs. Sir J. Colomb; *As.* Mr. Wyndham, *July 20* [74] 1363.

Officers Communicating with Superior Authority
Q. Sir J. Colomb; *A.* Mr. Wyndham, *July 27* [75] 491.

References to, in Debate in Com. of Supply, *July 21* [74] 1647.

Stores, Supply of, Authority responsible for
Q. Sir J. Colomb; *A.* Mr. Wyndham, *July 27* [75] 492.

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Q. Sir J. Colomb; *A.* Mr. Wyndham, *July 31* [75] 844.

NAVAL WARFARE AND PRIVATE PROPERTY

Q. Mr. T. G. Bowles; *A.* Mr. Brodrick, *Feb. 10* [66] 498.

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Delay in carrying out—Explanation, Mr. J. A. Chamberlain, *July 25* [75] 271.
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Estimates and Expenditure—Statement [Mr. J. A. Chamberlain] *July 25* [75] 271

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Account, *Mar. 8* [68] 167.

Expenditure under
Q. Mr. Pirie; *A.* Mr. J. A. Chamberlain, *Mar. 16* [67] 980; *Q.* Sir. C. Dilke; *A.* Mr. J. A. Chamberlain, *Apr. 27* [70] 693.

Statement, *Mar. 9* [68] 264.

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c. 1R.* *July 19* [74] 1344.
2R.* *July 25*, 271. [75]
Com., *July 27* [75] 541.
3R.* *July 31*, 956.
l. 1R.* *Aug. 1*, 1012.
2R.* *Aug. 3*, 1242.
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Royal Assent, *Aug. 9* [76] 255.

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Q. Sir U. Kay-Shuttleworth; *A.* Mr. J. A. Chamberlain, *Mar. 7* [68] 30; *Q.* Sir W. Kay-Shuttleworth; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *July 13* [74] 682.

Annual Bills—Mr. E. Robertson's Amendt. *July 27* [75] 542.

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Financial Resolution, *July 18* [74] 1267; Reported, *July 19*, 1342.

[For Subjects discussed, *See* Title Docks, Barracks, Defences, etc.]

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Annual Statement, *May 18* [71] 908.

Danubian Dues
Q. Lord E. Fitzmaurice; *A.* Mr. Brodrick, *July 27* [75] 505.

Merchant Vessels
Q. Mr. H. Wilson; *A.* Mr. Ritchie, *June 12* [72] 895.

United States Laws
Q. Mr. Buchanan; *A.* Mr. Brodrick, *Aug. 3* [75] 1283.

Navy
First Lord—Hon. G. J. Goschen.
Secretary—Mr. G. E. Macartney.

Admiralty Office, Vote for, *July 21* [74] 1601; *July 24* [75] 179.

Anticosti Islands, *See* Anticosti.

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Q. Mr. Fenwick; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *May 1* [70] 965.

Barracks, *See* that Title.

Boilers, *See* that Title.

Boy Sailors Scheme, *See* Seamen.

"Brassey's Naval Annual"
Position of the Admiralty—Disclosure of Naval Secrets
Q. Mr. Hogan; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *Aug. 1* [75] 1036.

Britannia College
Q. Mr. Burns; *A.* Mr. J. A. Chamberlain, *Apr. 17* [69] 1275.

Bullfinch Torpedo-boat Disaster
Q. Sir E. Gourley; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *July 28* [75] 668; *Qs.* Sir E. Gourley, Sir F. Flannery; *As.* Mr. Goschen, *Aug. 7* [76] 9.

Calliope Dock, Auckland, Establishment of Coaling Station proposed
Q. Admiral Field; *A.* Mr. J. A. Chamberlain, *Apr. 25* [70] 522; *Q.* Mr. Hogan; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *Aug. 7* [76] 10.

Cape Contribution, References to, in Debate on the Queen's Speech, *Feb. 7* [66] 4, 7, 118.

Channel Squadron, *See* that Title.

Chaplains
Q. Mr. C. Williams; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *Mar. 17* [68] 1135.

Chatham Dockyard—Workpeople's Pensions—Periods of Absence
Q. Mr. Woods; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *Aug. 8* [76] 169.

Coal
Q. Mr. Firbank; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *Feb. 13* [66] 680; *Q.* Sir C. Dilke; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *Mar. 9* [68] 271.

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Colonial Cadets—References to, in Debate, *Apr. 14* [69] 1213, 1214, 1215, 1217.

Contracts
New Form of Contract
Qs. Mr. E. Robertson; *As.* Mr. Macartney, *Feb. 23* [67] 272; *Q.* Mr. E. Robertson; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *June 19* [72] 1480.

Penalties incurred
Q. Mr J. H. Lewis; *A.* Mr. W. E. Macartney, *May 8* [71] 43.

Penalties and the Engineers' Strike, *S.*, *July 21* [74] 1576, 1589, 1590.

Repairs, etc., Vote for, *July 21* [74] 1554.

Stores under Contract, Delivery of
Q. Commander Young; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *Aug. 4* [75] 1468.

Thames Iron Works—Contracts
Q. Mr. S. Buxton; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *May 11* [71] 327.

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Q. Mr. Morris; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *July 11* [74] 467.

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Q. Sir J. Maclure; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *Apr. 25* [70] 515.

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Portsmouth
Qs. Mr. Admiral Field, Mr. T. G. Bowles; *As.* Mr. G. J. Goschen, *July 7* [74] 167.

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Cork Harbour—Length of Pier, etc.
Q. Mr. Nussey; *A.* Mr. J. A. Chamberlain, *July 7* [74] 169.

Courts-Martial
Criminal Evidence Act
Q. Mr. H. D. Green; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *Aug. 4* [75] 1469.

Returns, *Aug. 1* [75] 969, 1030.

Deptford Victualling Yard
Q. Mr. Steadman; *A.* Mr. J. A. Chamberlain, *Feb. 10* [66] 504.

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Q. Mr. Steadman; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *Apr. 21* [70] 206.

Derelicts in the Atlantic
Q. Mr. Macdona; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *July 11* [74] 466.

Devonport Dockyard—Press Representatives refused admission
Q. Mr. A. J. C. Morton; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *Aug. 8* [76] 159.

Devonport Royal Engineering College—Recreation Ground
Q. Mr. Sharpe; *A.* Mr. G. J. Goschen, *Mar. 2* [67] 1015.

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Q. Mr. Webster; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *Feb. 16* [66] 1110.

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Q. Mr. Labouchere; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *Feb. 21* [67] 55.

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Return, *Aug. 1* [75] 1030.

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Q. Capt. Donelan; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *Feb. 20* [66] 1448; *Q.* Capt. Donelan; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *Mar. 9* [68] 288.

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Q. Mr. S. Smith; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *Mar. 2* [67] 1040.

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Qs. Capt. Norton; *As.* Mr. Goschen, *July 4* [73] 1407; *July 13* [74] 681.

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Q. Mr. Pierpoint; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *July 28* [75] 668.

Report, *Aug. 1* [75] 969 1031.

Hong-Kong Dock, *See* that Title.

Hydrographer's Report, *May 11* [71] 321; *May 12*, 434.

Jackal, H.M.S., *See* that Title.

Keyham Dockyard Works, *See* that Title.

Manœuvres
Q. Sir E. Gourley; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *July 10* [74] 300.

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Qs. Mr. MacNeill, Mr. Dillon; *As.* Mr. Goschen, *July 14* [74] 886.

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Meat Condemned at Deptford Victualling Yard
Qs. Mr. Flynn, Capt. Donelan, Mr. Macaleese; *As.* Mr. Wyndham, *July 11* [74] 466.

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Q. Capt. Norton; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *Mar. 16* [68] 976.

Medicine Contracts—Irish Tenders
Q. Mr. Field; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *Aug. 1* [75] 1036.

Motors, Electric, Control of
Q. Sir F. Flannery; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *June 8* [72] 632.

Nelson Monument on Portsdown Hill, Restoration of
Q. Sir J. Fergusson; *A.* Mr. J. A. Chamberlain, *July 18* [74] 1167.

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Northfleet Dockyard
Q. Mr. Ryder; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *Mar. 27* [69] 498.

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Q. Capt. Norton; *A.* Mr. Akers-Douglas, *Apr. 25* [70] 519; *Qs.* Captain Norton; *As.* Mr. Hanbury, *May 15* [71] 600; *June 2* [72] 177; *Q.* Capt. Norton; *A.* Mr. Anstruther, *June 8* [72] 657; *Q.* Capt. Norton; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *June 22* [73] 275.

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Q. Mr. Lewis; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *Apr. 21* [70] 213.
Foreign Languages, *S.*, *Apr. 14* [69] 1270.
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Strategy, Instruction of Officers in
Qs. Sir C. Dilke, Mr. T. G. Bowles; *As.* Mr. Goschen, *July 20* [74] 1362.

Patriotic Fund, Report, *May 18* [71] 909.

Patriotic Fund Bill, *See* that Title.

Pay—Exceptions to Queen's Regulations, *June 22* [73] 263.

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Q. Mr. Mildmay; *A.* Mr. J. A. Chamberlain, *July 13* [74] 683.

Prize Courts Acts 1894, Order in Council, *Feb. 7* [66] 38.

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Q. Sir J. Colomb, *July 21* [74] 1607; *Q.* Sir J. Colomb; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *Aug. 1* [75] 1035.

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Q. Mr. Weir; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *Mar. 16* [68] 979; *Q.* Mr. Weir; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *Apr. 23* [70] 387.

Employment on British Ships—Complaints
Q. Mr. H. Wilson; *A.* Mr. Ritchie, *Apr. 21* [70] 216.

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Q. Sir E. Gourley; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *June 6* [72] 435.

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Q. Viscount Sidmouth; *A.* Lord Churchill, *May 1* [70] 941.

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Q. Mr. Weir; *A.* Mr. W. E. Macartney, *May 19* [71] 1021; *O.* Mr. Weir, *May 19* [71] 1050.

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Serge Contracts—Artificial Dyes
Q. Lord C. Beresford; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *July 17* [74] 991.

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"Admiral" Class of Battleships
Q. Mr. Arnold-Forster; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *Mar. 16* [68] 967.

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Bulwark
Q. Sir C. Dilke: *A.* Mr. Goschen, *Feb. 13* [66] 655.

Cape Colony — Postmaster-General's Objections to H.M. ships' Mail Bags
Q. Mr. Halsey; *A.* Mr. Anstruther, *May 11* [71] 353.

Collingwood
Q. Mr. Gilhooly; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *Feb. 10* [66] 517.

Contract work, Repairs, etc., Vote for, *July 24* [75] 178.

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Q. Capt. Norton; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *Mar. 2* [67] 1050.

Dockyard, Re-fit, etc.
Q. Sir S. King; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *May 12* [71] 479.

Eclipse, Explosion on
Q. Mr. T. G. Bowles; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *Feb. 10* [66] 497.

Electricity, Use of, *S.*, *July 21* [74] 1583.

Ganges, Removal from Falmouth—Petition, *Aug. 7* [76] 5.

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Movements of Ships
Q. Lord Muskerry; *A.* Duke of Marlborough, *Feb. 16* [66] 1059.

Niobe
Qs. Mr. Fison, Mr. Allan; *As.* Mr. Goschen, *Apr. 14* [69] 1123.

Obsolete Vessels, Sale of
Q. Mr. Weir; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *Mar. 10* [68] 446.

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Q. Capt. Donelan; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *May 15* [71] 587.

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Russian Programme, *S.*, *July 21* [74] 1584, 1585.

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Q. Mr. Penn; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *July 13* [74] 681.

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Slips for New Battleships
Q. Sir C. Dilke; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *Mar. 13* [68] 522.

Speed of Ships fitted with Water-tight Boilers
O. Mr. Goshen, *July 21* [74] 1560.

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Tonnage of Ships during past ten years
O. Mr. J. A. Chamberlain, *July 25* [75] 276.

Types, etc., *S.*, *July 21* [74] 1578.

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Water-tight Doors
Q. Col. Lockwood; *A.* Mr. G. J. Goschen, *May 11* [71] 325.
References to in Debate in Com. of Supply, *July 21* [74] 1583.

Shipwrights, training
Q. Mr. Steadman; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *Mar. 24* [69] 319.

Soudan, Naval Officers in—Promotion and Retirement
Q. Lord C. Beresford; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *July 17* [74] 990.

Statistics
Q. Mr. Weir; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *Mar. 6* [67] 1349.

Subsidised Steamers for War purposes
Qs. Sir E. Gourley, Gen. Russell; *As.* Mr. Goschen, *Apr. 17* [69] 1267.

Sugar, Refined
Q. Col. Milward; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *July 21* [74] 1538.

Supplementary Programme
Q. Sir C. Dilke; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *Feb. 13* [66] 655.

Tauranga, H.M.S., *See* that Title.

Training Ships, *See* that Title.

Tramore Boatslip
Q. Mr. Power; *A.* Mr. J. A. Chamberlain, *July 6* [74] 10.

Transports, Hired—Boat Accommodation
Q. Mr. Power; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *Apr. 18* [69] 1448.

Wei-hai-Wei, Questions relating to, *See* China.

West India Docks and Naval Stores
Q. Mr. Steadman; *A.* Mr. J. A. Chamberlain, *Feb. 10* [66] 503.

Woolwich Arsenal—Employment of Naval Officers
Q. Lord C. Beresford; *A.* Mr. Wyndham, *July 17* [74] 992.

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Writers on Ships, Vacancies
Q. Capt. Donelan; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *Mar. 6* [67] 1365; *Q.* Capt. Donelan; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *May 15* [71] 588.

NAVY ESTIMATES

Q. Mr. E. Robertson; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *Feb. 28* [67] 795; *Q.* Captain Norton; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *Mar. 3*, 1228.

Annual Statement [Mr. Goschen], *Mar. 9* [68] 306.

Explanatory Statement, *Feb. 21* [67] 3.

Appropriation Account, *Feb. 15* [66] 995.

Statement added to Appendix, proposed
Q. Sir J. Colomb; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *Aug. 7* [76] 9.

Supplementary Estimates
Revised Estimate, *Apr. 27* [67] 594.

Times Premature Publication, etc.
Q. Mr. Dillon; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *Mar. 9* [68] 305; *Qs.* Mr. Ellis, Mr. D. A. Thomas, Mr. McKenna; *As.* Mr. Macartney, *Mar. 13*, 530.

Treasury Minute, *Mar. 27* [69] 486.

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Resolutions, *July 31* [75] 959—Report, *Aug. 1*, 1138.

NAVY ESTIMATES

Admiralty Office—£261,600
Com., July 21 [74] 1601; *Rep.* July 24* [75] 179.

Armaments—£2,710,800
Com., Apr. 14 [69] 1229; *Rep., Apr. 17*, 1420.

Contract Work, Shipbuilding, Repairs, etc. —£6,601,000
Com., July 21 [74] 1554; *Rep.* July 24* [75] 178.

Educational Services—£90,600
Com., Apr. 14 [69] 1209; *Rep., Apr. 17*, 1420.

Half-Pay, etc.—£774,700
Com., Apr. 14 [69] 1236; *Rep., Apr. 17*, 1420.

Martial Law and Naval Prisons, at Home and Abroad—£12,200
Com., Apr. 14 [69] 1205; *Rep., Apr. 17*, 1419.

Medical Establishments and Services—£176,500
Com., Apr. 14 [69] 1201; *Rep., Apr. 17*, 1419.

Men and Boys—110,640
Com., Mar. 13 [68] 642; *Mar. 16*, 997.

Miscellaneous Effective Services—£248,200
Com., Apr. 14 [69] 1234; *Rep., Apr. 17*, 1420.

Naval Services in Australian Waters—£60,300
Com. Apr. 14* [69] 1237; *Rep., Apr. 17*, 1421.

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Pensions
Civil—£341,500
Com., Apr. 14 [69] 1237; *Rep., Apr. 17*, 1421.

Naval and Marine—£1,116,000
Com. Apr. 14* [69] 1236; *Rep., Apr. 17*, 1421.

Reserve—£271,000
Com., Apr. 14, 1225; *Rep., Apr. 17* [69] 1420.

Scientific Services—£69,500
Com., Apr. 14 [69] 1221; *Rep., Apr. 17*, 1420.

Shipbuilding Repairs, Maintenance, etc.
Matériel—£3,799,000
Com. July 21* [74] 1591; *Rep.* July 24* [75] 178.

Personnel—£2,417,000
Com., July 21 [74] 1591; *Rep.* July 24* [75] 178.

Supplementary Vote—£350,000
Com., Mar. 10 [68] 503; *Rep., Mar. 13*, 660.

Victualling, Clothing, etc.—£1,606,700
Com., Apr. 14 [69] 1181.

Works, Buildings, etc.—£795,000
Com., Mar. 14 [69] 1141; *Rep., Mar 17*, 1419.

NELSON CHARITY, APPROPRIATION OF

Q. Mr. C. Williams; *A.* Mr. Lawson, *Aug. 4* [75] 1478.

NELSON MONUMENT ON PORTSDOWN HILL RESTORATION OF

Q. Sir J. Fergusson; *A.* Mr. J. A. Chamberlain, *July 18* [74] 1167.

NENAGH CHILDREN

Industrial Schools dispute
Qs. Mr. T. M. Healy; *As.* Mr. W. G. Balfour, *July 7* [74] 181; *Aug 4* [75] 1491.

Nene Valley Water Bill

l. 1R.* *Feb. 14* [66] 810.
2R.* *Feb. 20*, 1407.
Com., Mar. 6 [67] 1331; *Mar. 9* [68] 246.
Rep. Mar. 24* [69] 285.

NETHERAVON ESTATE, SIR M. H. BEACH

Purchase by Chancellor of the Exchequer —Personal Explanation, *July 31* [76] 879.

NETHERAVON HOUSE

Non-occupation of by the War Office
Q. Mr. Goulding; *A.* Mr. Wyndham, *June 6* [72] 442.

NETHERLANDS, *See* Holland.

NETLEY STREET SCHOOL, ST. PANCRAS, *See* Education Department Provisional Order London] Bill.

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NEVILLE, R. H.—Drowning Fatality in the Thames.
Q. Mr. Steadman; *A.* Mr. Ritchie, *Apr. 20* [70] 34.

NEW FOREST, REPORT
Q. Mr. Scott-Montagu; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *Aug. 4* [75] 1486.

NEW GUINEA, *See* British New Guinea.

NEW HEBRIDES
Q. Capt. Sinclair; *A.* Mr. J. Chamberlain, *Mar. 6* [67] 1356.
French Traders—Restrictions on Sale of Spirits and Firearms to Natives
Q. Mr. Hogan; *A.* Mr. Brodrick, *Aug. 7* [76] 21.
Liquor Traffic in, *Debate* [c.] *Mar. 28* [69] 668.

NEW MEMBERS SWORN, *See* Members.

New Mills Urban District Council [Water] Bill
c. 1R.* *Feb. 14* [66] 839.
2R.* *Feb. 20*, 1426.
*Rep.** *Mar. 16* [68] 944.

NEW PEERS, *See* Peers.

NEW SOUTH WALES
Australasian Federation
Q. Mr. Buxton; *A.* Mr. J. Chamberlain, *June 20* [73] 66.
Defences—Properties held in Trust transferred to Government of New South Wales — Representation, *July 4* [71] 1392, 1404.
Interchanges of Troops
Q. Mr. Hogan; *A.* Mr. Wyndham, *Feb. 9* [66] 323.
Wine from Albury District
Q. Mr. Curran; *A.* Sir M. Hicks-Beach, *Apr. 28* [70] 828.

NEW WRITS
Antrim County, North, *Feb. 14* [66] 851.
Birmingham City, North Division, *Feb. 8* [66] 180.
Buckinghamshire, Mid, *Feb. 7* [66] 45.
Down County, North Division, *Feb. 7* [66] 45.
Durham County, Darlington Division, *Feb. 7* [66] 45.
Edinburgh
East Division, *June 13* [72] 1078.
South Division, *June 9*, 762.
Fermanagh County, North Division, *Feb. 7* [66] 45.
Hythe Borough, *Feb. 20* [66] 1428.
Lanark County, North Western Division, *Feb. 8* [66] 180.
Lancashire
Newton, *Feb. 7* [66] 45.
Ormskirk, *Feb. 7* [66] 45.
Southport, *May 12* [71] 491.

NEW WRITS—*cont.*
Liverpool, Kirkdale, *Feb. 17* [66] 45.
Merioneth County, *Apr. 24* [70] 368.
Norfolk, North Division, *Feb. 28* [67] 778.
Oldham, Borough of, *June 27* [73] 782.
Oxford City, *Feb. 7* [66] 45.
St. Pancras, East Division, *July 3* [73] 1270.
Surrey County, Epsom, *Feb. 7* [66] 45.
Yorkshire, W. R.
Elland, *Feb. 20* [66] 1428.
Osgoldcross, *June 19* [72] 1474.
Rotherham, *Feb. 8* [66] 180.

NEW YORK
British Consular Shipping Office—Crimping, etc.
Q. Mr. H. Wilson; *A.* Mr. Long, *Feb. 20* [66] 1453; *Q.* Mr. H. Wilson; *A.* Mr. Ritchie, *Feb. 27* [67] 623; *Q.* Sir J. Fergusson; *A.* Mr. Brodrick, *July 10* [74] 306.
Debate in Com. of Supply, *Aug. 3* [75] 1357.
Cancer Laboratory at Buffalo
Qs. Sir C. Cameron; *As.* Mr. Ritchie, Mr. T. W. Russell, *July 11* [74] 471.
Hotel Fire
Q. Sir J. Leng; *A.* Mr. Collings, *Mar. 23* [69] 136.
Trade Report, *May 12* [71] 433.

NEW ZEALAND
Auckland, *See* that Title.
Meat Trade with Belgium
Q. Mr. Ascroft; *A.* Mr. J. Chamberlain, *Apr. 25* [70] 528.
Old Age Pensions
Q. Mr. Hogan; *A.* Mr. J. Chamberlain, *Mar. 26* [68] 968.
Samoa—Offer of New Zealand Regiment
Q. Sir H. Meysey-Thompson; *A.* Mr. Brodrick, *Apr. 28* [70] 827.

NEWBIGGIN-BY-THE-SEA FISHERIES
Destruction of fishing gear, etc., by Trawlers, alleged
Q. Mr. Fenwick; *A.* Mr. Ritchie, *June 8* [72] 635.

NEWBLISS
Eviction Case, *See* Finegan.
Post Office
Livingstone, Resignation of
Q. Mr. Macaleese; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *Aug 7* [76] 26.
Mails—Number of Deliveries
Q. Mr. Macaleese; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *May 18* [71] 937.
Letter to Post Office Department
Q. Mr. Macaleese; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *May 19* [71] 1027.
Messenger's Salary
Q. Mr. Macaleese; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *June 12* [72] 904; *Q.* Mr. J. H. Johnstone; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *June 29* [73] 986.

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NEWCASTLE [COUNTY DOWN] PIER AND HARBOUR WORKS
Grant for
Q. Mr. M'Cartan; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *May 18* [71] 934.

NEWCASTLE WEST, CREAMERY
Sewer complaint
Q. Mr. Austin; *A.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *June 15* [72] 1193.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne Tramways and Improvement Bill.
c. 1R.* *Feb. 14* [66] 839.
2R.* *Feb. 23* [67] 266.
Rep. from Select Com. June 29 [73] 964.
3R.* *July 3*, 1266.
l. 1R.* *July 3* 1230.
2R.* *July 11* [74] 426.
*Com.** *July 20*, 1345.
*Rep.** *July 28* [75] 617.
3R.* *Aug. 3*, 1209.
c. Lords Amendts. Aug. 4, 1451.
l. Royal Assent, Aug. 9 [76] 257.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE TRAMWAYS AND IMPROVEMENT BILL
Standing Orders, Suspension of
Motion [Dr. Farquharson] *July 3* [73] 1266.

NEWDIGATE, MR. F. A. [Warwickshire, Nuneaton]
Atherstone Level Crossing, *Feb. 13* [66] 656.
Transvaal Question, *July 28* [75] 754, 773.
Wilkie's Portrait of the Queen, etc—Marquis of Normanby's offer to the National Portrait Gallery, *Aug. 1* [75] 1044.

NEWFOUNDLAND
Fisheries
Q. Sir C. Dilke; *A.* Mr. A. J. Balfour, *Feb. 23* [67] 307.
Bait Dispute
Qs. Mr. T. G. Bowles; *As.* Mr. Brodrick, *June 26* [73] 589; *June 27*, 762; *Qs.* Sir C. Dilke, Mr. T. G. Bowles; *As.* Mr. J. Chamberlain, *July 14* [74] 874.
Negotiations
Q. Dr. Tanner; *A.* Mr. Brodrick, *Feb. 17* [66] 1283.
Report
Qs. Sir T. G. Carmichael, Mr. Bowles; *As.* Mr. J. Chamber- *June 16* [72] 1338; *Q.* Mr. T. G. Bowles; *A.* Mr. J. Chamberlain, *July 24* [75] 66.
French Shore Question
Q. Mr. J. H. Roberts; *A.* Mr. J. Chamberlain, *May 8* [71] 50; *Q.* Mr. T. G. Bowles; *A.* Mr. Brodrick, *July 4* [73] 1411; *Q.* Sir C. Dilke; *A.* Mr. J. Chamberlain, *July 14* [74] 874.

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Gaspesia, Detention at St. John's—Salvage Claim
Q. Mr. Weir; *A.* Mr. Ritchie, *July 4* [73] 1414.
Morine, Hon. A. B., Case of
Q. Mr. M'Kenna; *A.* Mr. J. Chamberlain, *Mar. 2* [67] 1036.
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Q. Sir F. Evans; *A.* Mr. J. Chamberlain, *Mar. 10* [68] 441.

NEWGATE PRISON
Qs. Mr. Barnes, Lord Balcarres; *As.* Sir M. W. Ridley, *Apr. 20* [70] 38.

Newhaven and Seaford Water Board Bill
l. 1R., *Feb. 14* [66] 810.
2R., *Feb. 27* [67] 583.
Com., Mar. 6, 1331.
Rep. from Select Com., May 9 [71] 130.

NEWSPAPERS
Press Telegraphic Messages—Manchester Post Office and Old Trafford Cricket Match
Q. Sir J. Leng; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *July 24* [75] 80.
Reports, Premature, Publication of
Os. Mr. J. A. Pease, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Paulton, *July 17* [74] 1013.
Daily News—Licensing Commission Report Publication
Qs. Mr. Young, Mr. Flynn; *As.* Sir M. W. Ridley, *July 7* [74] 173.
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Sunday Edition
Qs. Mr. Pirie, Sir W. Lawson; *A.* Mr. A. J. Balfour, *Mar. 24* [69] 341; *Qs.* Mr. Pirie, Earl Percy, Sir M. Stewart, Sir E. Ashmead-Bartlett; *As.* Mr. A. J. Balfour, *Apr. 14* 1138; *Q.* Sir M. Stewart; *A.* Sir M. W. Ridley, *Apr. 27* [70] 705; *Q.* Mr. S. Smith; *A.* Sir M. W. Ridley, *May 4*, 1300; *Q.* Mr. Pirie; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *May 18* [71] 926.
Petition, *May 1* [70] 949.

NEWTON, LORD
Salonika, Establishment of British Post Office, *May 9* [71] 134.

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Q. Mr. Davitt; *A.* Mr. Brodrick, *Apr. 17* [69] 1280.

NICOL, MR. D. N. [Argyll]
French Navy, *May 4* [70] 1296.
Light Dues, Exemption of Vessels engaged in Inland Navigation, etc., *Aug. 3* [75] 1287.
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Anglo-French Agreement, *See* Africa.

Annual Report, West African Frontier Force, *June 1* [72] 69; *June 2*, 170.

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Qs. Mr. J. E. Ellis; *As.* Mr. Brodrick, *July 10* [74] 304; *July 13*, 690.

Coast Protectorate Harbour Works—Colonial Loans Bill, *Aug. 2* [75] 1185.

Finance Statements, *July 6* [74] 10.

Liquor Traffic, *See* Africa, West.

New Administration, Supplementary Vote, *July 31* [75] 945.

Transfer of Administration from Royal Niger Company to the Crown—Subjects discussed on Bill, etc.

Berlin Act, *July 26* [75] 374, 400, 422.

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French Claims against the Company, *July 26* [75] 422-425; *July 27*, 536, 539.

Land and Mineral Rights, *July 26* [75] 375, 411; *July 27*, 527, 533, 537.

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Liquor Traffic, *July 26*, 381; *July 27* [75] 522, 530.

Q. Mr. Buchanan; *A.* Mr. J. Chamberlain, *July 24* [75] 66; *Q.* Sir J. Kennaway; *A.* Mr. J. Chamberlain, *July 31*, 845.

References to in Debate in Com. of Supply, *July 31* [75] 945, 950.

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Liverpool Trading Community, Grievances of, *July 26* [75] 393.

Navigation of the Niger—Berlin Act, *July 26* [75] 422.

Price to be paid for the purchase, *July 26* [75] 370—Amendt. [Mr. Dillon], 378.

Slavery, Legal Status of, *July 26* [75] 375; *July 27*, 522, 530.

Qs. Mr. Buchanan; *As.* Mr. J. Chamberlain, *July 27* [75] 497; *July 28*, 672.

References to in Debate in Com. of Supply, *July 28* [75] 786; *July 31*, 945.

Territories, Revenues of, etc., *July 26* [75] 407.

United Kingdom and France, Delimitation of Possessions, Convention, *July 21* [74] 1500, 1533.

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Anglo-Egyptian Sphere of Influence
Q. Sir C. Dilke, *Aug. 4* [75] 1511.

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Anglo-French Agreement, *See* Africa.

Blue and White Nile—Sir W. Garston's Explorations
Q. Mr. J. Ellis; *A.* Mr. Brodrick, *Mar. 22* [69] 337.

France in the Nile Valley
Q. Sir E. Ashmead Bartlett; *A.* Mr. Brodrick, *Mar. 16* [68] 980.

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Martyr and Juba Expeditions, *See* Titles Martyr and Macdonal Expeditions.

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Malwa Opium Trade
Q. Mr. H. J. Wilson; *A.* Mr. Brodrick, *Apr. 25* [70] 518.

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Qs. Mr. Fison, Mr. Allan; *As.* Mr. Goschen, *Apr. 14* [69] 1123.

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Q. Mr. Goddard; *A.* Mr. T. W. Russell, *July 18* [74] 1169.

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Halfpenny Postage Anomalies, *July 24* [75] 57, 59.

Mail Steamer Contracts, *June 26* [73] 536.

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Salonika, Establishment of British Post Office, *May 9* [71] 135.

Telegraph [Channel Islands] Bill, *Mar. 2* [67] 1005.

Telegraphs [Telephonic Communication, etc.] Bill, 2R., *Aug. 3* [75] 1243.

Norfolk Estuary Bill

l. 1R., *Feb. 14* [66] 811.
2R.* *Feb. 23* [67] 263.
Com., *Mar. 2*, 998.
3R.* *Apr. 25* [70] 503.
c. 1R., *Apr. 27*, 688.
2R.* *May 8* [71] 25.
*Rep.** *May 18*, 906.
3R.* *June 2* [72] 167.
l. Royal Assent, *June 20* [73] 2.

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North-Eastern Railway Bill

l. R.* *Feb. 14* [66] 811.
2R.* *Feb. 23* [67] 263.
*Com.** *Mar 2*, 998.
*Rep.** *May 12* [71] 422; *June 2* [72] 161.
3R, *June 6*, 411.

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North-Eastern Railway Bill—cont.

c. 1R.* *June 8*, 625.
2R* *June 19*, 1476.
*Rep.** *July 20* [74] 1358.
*Con.** *July 26* [75] 366.
3R.* *July 31*, 840.
l. Commons Amendts., Aug. 1, 968.
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New Bye-laws Proposed, *S.*, *May 12* [71] 558.

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Q. Sir F. Flannery; *A.* Mr. Ritchie, *June 8* [72] 634.

North-Eastern and Hull and Barnsley Railways [Joint Dock] Bill

l. 1R., *Feb. 17* [66] 1241.
2R.* *Mar. 3* [67] 1162.
Com., Mar. 10 [68] 426.
*Rep.** *June 2* [72] 161.
3R.* *June 6*, 411.
c. 1R.* *June 8*, 625.
2R.* *June 19*, 1476.
*Rep.** *July 18* [74] 1166.
*Con.** *Aug. 1* [75] 1027; *Aug. 2*, 1145.
3R* *Aug. 2*, 1145.
l. Commons Amendts Aug. 4, 1421.
Royal Assent Aug. 9 [76] 257.

North Pembrokeshire and Fishguard Railway Bill

c. 1R.* *Feb. 14* [66] 839.
2R.* *Feb. 27* [67] 592.
*Rep.** *May 5* [70] 1412.
*Con.** *May 12* [71] 452.
3R.* *May 16*, 722.
l. 1R.* *May 18*, 894.
2R.* *June 8* [72] 595.
*Rep.** *June 12*, 877.
3R.* *June 15*, 1166.
Royal Assent, June 20 [73] 2.

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Seamen—Board of Trade Official receiving Money for Providing Employment, *S.*, *May 12* [71] 551.

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l. 1R.* *Feb. 14* [66] 811.
2R.* *Feb. 27* [67] 583.
*Com.** *Mar. 6*, 1331; *Mar. 7* [68] 3.
Rep. from Select Com., June 19 [72] 1454.
3R.* *June 23* [73] 371.
c. 1R.* *June 26*, 585.
2R.* *July 5*, 1513.
*Rep.** *July 25* [75] 217.
*Con.** *July 31*, 840.
3R.* *July 31*, 840.
l. Commons Amendts., Aug. 1, 968.
Royal Assent, Aug. 9 [76] 256.

North-West London Railway Bill

c. 1R.* *Feb. 14* [66] 839.
2R., *Feb. 20*, 1426.
Rep. Apr. 13 [69] 967.
3R.* *Apr. 25* [70] 507.

North-West London Railway Bill—cont.

l. 1R.* *Apr. 27*, 668.
2R.* *May 9* [71] 130.
*Rep.** *June 12* [72] 878; *June 30* [73] 1109.
3R.* *Aug. 1* [75] 967.
c. Lords Amendts., Aug. 4, 1451.
l. Royal Assent, Aug. 9 [76] 257.

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Qs. Mr. Priestley, Mr. Labouchere; *As.* Sir J. Gorst, *Feb. 21* [67] 53; *Q.* Mr. Labouchere; *A.* Sir J. Gorst, *Feb. 27* [67] 621; *Qs.* Mr. Channing; *As.* Sir J. Gorst, *Mar. 6* [67] 1363; *Mar. 7* [68] 30.

Motion, Mr. Labouchere, *Feb. 27* [67] 63[illegible].

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l. 2R.* *Feb. 28* [67] 754.
Com., Mar. 7 [68] 2.
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c. 1R.* *Mar. 27*, 476.
2R.* *Apr. 17*, 1262.
Rep., Apr. 28 [70] 816.
*Con.** *May 10* [71] 225.
3R.* *May 15*, 580.
l. Royal Assent, June 6 [72] 409.

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Q. Mr. Hedderwick; *A.* Mr. A. J. Balfour, *Feb. 13* [66] 685; *Qs.* Mr. Tennant, Mr. Buchanan; *As.* Mr. A. J. Balfour, *Feb. 21* [67] 62, *Q.* Mr. Buchanan; *A.* Mr. Brodrick, *Feb. 23* [67] 299; *Q.* Mr. Hedderwick; *A.* Mr. A. J. Balfour, *Mar. 16* [68] 983; *Q.* Dr. Farquharson; *A.* Mr. Brodrick, *Mar. 27* [69] 505; *Q.* Mr. Tennant; *A.* Mr. A. J. Balfour, *May 2* [70] 1124; *Q.* Mr. Tennant; *A.* Mr. A. J. Balfour, *May 11* [71] 334; *Qs.* Sir W. Wedderburn, Mr. J. Lowther; *As.* Mr. Brodrick, *July 14* [74] 874.

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Q. Mr. Ryder; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *Mar. 27* [69] 498.

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Dublin Corporation Bill, Commons Amendts., *Aug. 3* [75] 1218, 1225, 1226.

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Plovers' Eggs, Protection of, *June 30* [73] 1129.

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Taylor, Surgeon-General, Case of, *Apr. 18* [69] 1461.

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Volunteer Funerals, Military Honours at, *Mar. 9* [68] 279; *Aug. 4* [75] 1469.

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Indian Campaigns — Camp Followers' Extra Clothing, *July 20* [74] 1368.

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Qs. Capt. Donelan ; *As.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *Feb. 9* [66] 319 ; *Feb. 16*, 1099.

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Q. Mr. Soames ; *A.* Sir M. W. Ridley, *July 13* [74] 701.

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l. 1R.* *Feb. 14* [66] 811.
2R.* *Feb. 27* [67] 583.
*Com.** *Mar. 6* [67] 1331 ; *May 8* [71] 4.
*Rep.** *May 15*, 562.
3R.* *May 18*, 892.
c. 1R.* *May 18*, 944.
2R.* *June 6* [72] 431.
*Rep.** *June 23* [73] 432.
*Con.** *June 30*, 1131.
3R.* *July 4*, 1402.
l. Commons Amendts., July 6 [74] 3.
Royal Assent, July 13, 662.

Stretford Urban District Council [Tramways] Bill
l. 1R.* *Feb. 14* [66] 810.
2R.* *Feb. 20*, 407.
*Rep.** *May 4* [70] 1277 ; *May 18* [71] 891.
3R.* *June 2* [72] 162.
c. 1R.* *June 5*, 326.
2R.* *June 14*, 1089.
*Rep.** *July 20* [74] 1358.
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l. Commons Amendts., Aug. 1 [75] 967.
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Qs. Sir E. Gourley, Gen. Russell ; *As.* Mr. Goschen, *Apr. 17* [69] 1267.

Succession [Scotland] Bill
c. 1R.* *Feb. 10*, 66, 486.
2R., *June 7* [72] 589.

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Q. Mr. Buchanan ; *A.* Lord G. Hamilton, *Apr. 17* [69] 1277.

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Q. Mr. Monk ; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *Feb. 14* [66] 867.

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Q. Mr. Llewelyn; A. Mr. Brodrick, Mar. 16 [68] 986.

Barbados Industry
Q. Sir C. Dilke; A. Mr. J. Chamberlain, Mar. 23 [69] 134.

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Q. Mr. Buchanan; A. Lord G. Hamilton, Apr. 14 [69] 1133.

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Q. Sir T. Sutherland; A. Mr. Brodrick, Feb. 14 [66] 860; Q. Mr. Hogan; A. Mr. A. J. Balfour, Feb. 14 [66] 867; Q. Mr. Seale-Hayne; A. Mr. Ritchie, Apr. 21 [70] 210; Q. Sir H. Vincent; A. Mr. Brodrick, June 9 [72] 763.

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Q. Mr. Lawrence; A. Mr. A. J. Balfour, Mar. 27 [69] 506.

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Q. Mr. Tomlinson; A. Mr. Brodrick, Aug. 7 [76] 20.

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Foreign Bounties
Q. Sir W. Lawson; A. Lord G. Hamilton, Apr. 14 [69] 1132.

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Q. Mr. Maclean; A. Mr. J. Chamberlain, July 27 [72] 494.

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Q. Capt. Sinclair; A. Lord G. Hamilton, Apr. 14 [69] 1131.

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Q. Sir W. Lawson; A. Lord G. Hamilton, Apr. 14 [69] 1132; Q. Mr. Buchanan; A. Lord G. Hamilton, Apr. 14, 1133.

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Q. Sir S. King; A. Lord G. Hamilton, Feb. 13 [66] 681; Q. Mr. H. Roberts; A. Lord G. Hamilton, Mar. 13 [68] 528; Qs. Mr. Maclean, Mr. MacNeill; As. Mr. A. J. Balfour, Mar. 16, 984; Qs. Mr. M'Kenna, Sir H. Fowler, Mr. Courtney; As. Lord G. Hamilton, Mar. 17, 1140; Qs. Mr. Maclean, Mr. B. Roberts, Sir W. Lawson; As. Lord G. Hamilton, Mar. 17, 1155; Q. Col. Milward; A. Lord G. Hamilton, Mar. 23 [69] 147; Q. Mr. Lawrence; A. Mr. A. J. Balfour, Mar. 27 [69] 506; Q. Mr. Flynn; A. Mr. Brodrick, Mar. 28, 639; Qs. Mr. Maclean, Sir H. Fowler; As. Lord G. Hamilton, Mr. A. J. Balfour, Apr. 11, 786; Q. Capt. Sinclair; As. Mr. Ritchie, May 5 [70] 1426; Qs. Capt. Sinclair; As. Lord G. Hamilton, Apr. 25, 527; May 5, 1427.

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Q. Mr. Flynn; A. Mr. Brodrick, Mar. 27 [69] 499; Q. Mr. Marks; A. Mr. Brodrick, Apr. 18 [69] 1454.

British Trade
Qs. Mr. Maclean, Sir H. Fowler; As. Mr. Ritchie, Apr. 24 [70] 380.

Correspondence, May 5 [70] 1419.

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Qs. Sir H. Fowler, Mr. Seale-Hayne; As. Lord G. Hamilton, Apr. 21 [70] 208; Qs. Capt. Sinclair; As. Lord G. Hamilton, May 18 [71] 916; June 2 [72] 185; June 8, 644.

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Q. Mr. Lambert; A. Lord G. Hamilton, Apr. 21 [70] 222.

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Tariff Act, 1899
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Motion [Sir H. H. Fowler], *June 15* [72] 1199.
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Q. Mr. Maclean; *A.* Lord G. Hamilton, *May 8* [71] 53.
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Q. Mr. W. H. Holland; *A.* Mr. J. Chamberlain, *June 13* [72] 1063.
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Q. Col. Milward; *A.* Mr. Macartney, *July 21* [74] 1538.
Queensland
Q. Mr. Seale-Hayne; *A.* Lord G. Hamilton, *Apr. 17* [69] 1282.
West Indian Colonies Industry
Q. Mr. Llewellyn; *A.* Mr. Brodrick, *Mar. 16* [68] 986; *Qs.* Mr. Macdona, Mr. Maclean; *As.* Mr. J. Chamberlain, *Mar. 17* [68] 1151.

SULLIVAN, MR. D. [Westmeath, S.]
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County Court Acts, Ireland, Affidavits—Return, *July 20* [74] 1382.
Dublin Excise Officers—Replacing first-class Officers by Assistants, *July 20* [74] 1374.
Dundalk Port, *Mar. 28* [69] 633.
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Glenties Union Fever Outbreak—Guardians' Liability for burning infected houses, *June 30* [73] 1194.

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Q. Mr. Nussey; *A.* Sir M. W. Ridley, *May 2* [70] 1116G.

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c. 1R.* *Feb. 14* [66] 850.
2R.* *Mar. 2* [67] 1159.
Com., *Mar. 13* [68] 662; *Mar. 15*, 839.
3R.* *Mar. 23* [69] 284.
l. 1R.* *Mar. 24*, 310.
2R., *June 29* [73] 951.
*Com.** *July 3*, 1263.
Rep. from Standing Com., *July 4*, 1394.
*Rep.** *July 6* [74] 6.
3R.* *July 7*, 159.
c. Lords Amendts., *July 31* [75] 938.
l. Royal Assent, *Aug. 9* [76] 255.

Summary Jurisdiction Act [1879] Amendment [No. 2] Bill
c. 1R., *Feb. 17* [66] 1262.

Sunday Closing [Wales] Act Amendment Bill
c. 1R.* *Mar. 24* [69] 316.

SUNDAY NEWSPAPERS, *See* Newspapers.

SUNDAY OBSERVANCE ACT
Sheerness Sunday Trading—Penalties
Q. Mr. Barnes; *A.* Sir M. W. Ridley, *Aug. 4* [75] 1475.

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Licensing Commission Recommendations—Legislation
Q. Mr. Tritton; *A.* Mr. A. J. Balfour, *Aug. 3* [75] 1303.
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Improvement Scheme, Statements of Modification, *Aug. 8* [76] 150.

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l. 1R.* *Feb. 14* [66] 810.
2R.* *Feb. 20*, 1407.
Rep. from Select Com., *May 10* [71] 689.
3R.* *June 1* [72] 66.
c. 1R.* *June 2*, 169.
2R.* *June 12*, 890.
*Com.** *July 20* [74] 1357.
*Rep.** *July 11*, 463.
3R.* *July 24* [75] 60.
l. Commons Amendts., *July 27*, 433.
Royal Assent, *Aug. 1*, 966.

SUPERANNUATION, *See* Pensions and Superannuation.

Superannuation [Metropolis] Bill
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SUPPLY—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES
Q. Mr. Pickersgill; *A.* Mr. A. J. Balfour, *Mar. 28* [69] 646; *Q.* Captain Sinclair; *A.* Mr. A. J. Balfour, *Apr. 20* [70] 64.

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Q. Mr. Buchanan; *A.* Mr. A. J. Balfour, *Mar. 7* [68] 37.

Department's power to issue Regulations
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Discussion on—Business of the House
Qs. Mr. Hazell, Mr. Lewis; *As.* Mr. A. J. Balfour, *Aug. 7* [76] 39.

Education Estimates
Q. Mr. M'Kenna; *A.* Mr. A. J. Balfour, *Apr. 24* [70] 388.
Sir J. Gorst's reply, *May 1* [70] 1062.

National Expenditure, Debate [*c.*] *Apr. 18* [69] 1503.

Sessional Order, *Motion* [Mr. A. J. Balfour] *Feb. 23* [67] 311; Amendts., Mr. Beckett, Mr. Dalziel, *Feb. 23*, 340, 343.

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Supplementary Estimates
Estimate presented, *Feb. 15* [66] 995; *Feb. 21* [67] 31; *July 21* [74] 1533.
Public Buildings, Purchase, etc., of, Estimate presented, *July 27* [75] 489.

SUPPLY—CIVIL SERVICE AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS ESTIMATES.

Agriculture, Board of—£28,919
Com., *Aug. 3* [75] 1393; *Rep.*, *Aug. 4*, 1549.

Bankruptcy Department of the Board of Trade—£6
*Com.** *Aug. 3* [75] 1393; *Rep.** *Aug. 4*, 1549.

British Museum, Natural History Museum, etc.—£106,030
Com., *Aug. 3* [75] 1317; *Rep.** *Aug. 4*, 1507.

Broadmoor Criminal Lunatic Asylum—£21,942
*Com.** *July 7* [74] 220; *Rep.** *July 17* [74] 1117.

Charitable and other Allowances—£785
*Com.** *June 1* [72] 157; *Rep.** *June 2* [72] 288.

Charity Commission—£27,594
*Rep.** *July 31* [75] 942.

Civil Contingencies Fund—£14,251
*Com.** *Aug. 3* [75] 1417; *Rep.** *Aug. 4*, 1559.

SUPPLY—*cont.*

Civil Service Commission—£28,405
*Com.** *July 28* [75] 793; *Rep.** *July 31*, 942.

Colonial Office, etc.—£31,405
Com., *July 28* [75] 686; *Rep.** *July 31*, 941, 1566.

Colonial Services—£367,801
Com., *July 31* [75] 945; *Rep.** *Aug. 2* [75] 1208.

County Courts—£29,714
*Com.** *July 7* [74] 192; *Rep.** *July 17*, 1117.

Customs Departments—£496,600
Com., *June 1* [72] 132; *Rep.** *June 2* [72] 287.

Cyprus, Island of, Grant in aid of Revenue—£1,000
*Com.** *Aug. 3* [75] 1373; *Rep.*, *Aug. 4*, 1519.

Diplomatic and Consular Buildings—£22,000
Com., *Apr. 10*, 767; *Rep.*, *Apr. 12* [69] 955.

Education—£5,153,986
Com., *Apr. 28* [70] 830; *Rep.*, *May 1* [70] 1062.

Embassies and Missions Abroad, and Consular Establishments Abroad—£227,335
Com., *Aug. 3* [75] 1351; *Rep.** *Aug. 4*, 1510.

Exchequer and Audit Department—£39,407
*Com.** *July 28* [75] 793; *Rep.** *July 31*, 942.

Foreign Office—£49,482
Com., *June 9* [72] 777; *Com.** *Aug. 3* [75] 1391; *Rep.*, *Aug. 4*, 1544.

Foreign and other Secret Services—£13,000
*Com.** *May 19* [71] 1057.

Friendly Societies Registry—£4,912
*Com.** *July 28* [75] 793; *Rep.** *July 31*, 943.

Harbours under the Board of Trade—£2,303
Com., *Aug. 3* [75] 1307; *Rep.** *Aug. 4*, 1495.

Home Office—£96,868
Com., *July 7* [74] 220; *Aug. 3* [75] 1387; *Rep.*, *Aug. 4*, 1537.

House of Commons Offices—£15,269
*Com.** *Aug. 3* [75] 1385; *Rep.** *Aug. 4*, 1537.

House of Lords Offices—£6,099
*Com.** *Aug. 3* [75] 1385; *Rep.*, *Aug. 4* 1532.

Houses of Parliament Buildings—£24,000
Com., *Apr. 10* [69] 765; *Rep.*, *Apr. 12*, 954.

Incorporated Law Society—£23,200
*Rep.** *July 17* [74] 1116.

Inland Revenue—£1,316,232
*Com.** *May 19* [71] 1055; *Rep.** *June 1* [72] 157.

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SUPPLY—*cont.*

Irish Votes

Charitable Donations and Bequests Office—£1,229
Com., June 30 [73] 1159; *Rep.* July 3*, 1387.

Chief Secretary's Office - £28,782
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1403; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1557.

Congested Districts Board—£23,175
Rep. Aug. 2* [75] 1208.

Constabulary—£750,900
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1411; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1558.

County Court Officers, Magistrates, etc. - £75,675
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1411; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1411.

Criminal Prosecutions and other Law Charges—£39,895
Com., June 22 [73] 306; *Rep.* June 23* [73] 526.

Dublin Metropolitan Police—£63,316
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1411; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1558.

Dundrum Criminal Lunatic Asylum—£4,044
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1414; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1559.

Education—£621,117
Com., Aug. 3 [75] 1333; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1509.

Endowed Schools Commissioners—£560
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1333; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1509.

Hospitals and Charities—£7,497
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1414; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1559.

Land Commission—£84,484
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1409; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1558.

Local Government Board—£27,479
Com., June 22 [73] 358; *June 30*, 1194; *Aug. 3* [75] 1405; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1557.

Lord Lieutenant's Household, etc.—£2,797
Com., June 30 [73] 1157; *Rep.* July 3*, 1387.

National Gallery—£1,300
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1333; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1510.

Prisons—£69,096
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1413; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1558.

Public Buildings, Public Works, etc.—£147,641
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1381; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1532.

Public Works Office—£24,739
Com., June 30 [73] 1181; *Rep.* July 3*, 1388.

Queen's Colleges—£2,450
Com., June 23 [73] 458; *Aug. 3* [75] 1333; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1510.

Railways—£29,936
Com. June 30* [73] 1157.

SUPPLY—*cont.*

Irish Votes—*cont.*

Record Office—£3,900
Com., June 30 [73] 1160; *Rep.* July 3* [73] 1387.

Reformatory and Industrial Schools—£54,669
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1413; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1559.

Registrar-General's Office—£12,113
Com. June 30* [73] 1178; *Rep.* July 3* [73] 1387.

Scientific Investigation, etc.—£21,724
Rep. July 3* [73] 1388.

Supreme Court of Judicature, and other Legal Departments—£71,777
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1406.

Tramways and Public Companies Act, Payments under—£29,936
Rep. July 3* [73] 1386.

Valuation and Boundary Survey—£7,071
Com., June 30 [73] 1178; *Rep.* July 3* [73] 1387.

Supplementary Votes, *See* that Sub-heading.

Kitchener, Lord, Grant to—£30,000
Com., June 5 [72] 327; *Rep.* June 8*, 747.

Land Registry—£16,742
Com. July 7* [74] 192; *Rep.* July 17*, 1116.

Law Officers, Department, etc.—£39,232
Com., July 7 [74] 189; *July 17*, 1116.

Legal Expenses, Miscellaneous—£13,200
Com., July 7 [74] 192.

Local Government Board—£132,732
Com., June 2 [72] 187; *Aug. 3* [75] 1397; *Rep., Aug. 4*, 1553.

London University—£4
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1326; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1509.

Lunacy Commission—£9,446
Com. May 19* [71] 1056; *Rep.* June 1* [72] 158.

Mercantile Marine Service—£64,070
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1393; *Rep., Aug. 4*, 1548.

Merchant Seamen's Fund Pension—£2,130
Com., June 1 [72] 157; *Rep.* June 2*, 287.

Metropolitan Police—£40,968
Rep. July 17* [74] 1117.

Mint and Coinage—£67
Com. May 19* [71] 1056; *Rep.* June 1* [72] 158.

Miscellaneous Expenses—£10,928
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1415; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1559.

National Debt Office—£9,274
Com. May 19* [71] 1056; *Rep.* June 1* [72] 158.

National Gallery and National Gallery of British Art—£6,149
Com., Aug. 3 [75] 1319; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1507.

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SUPPLY—*cont.*

National Portrait Gallery—£2,981
Com., Aug. 3 [75] 1320; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1508.

Paris Exhibition—£60,000
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1417; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1560.

Police, England and Wales—£40,968
Com. July 7* [74] 193.

Post Office, etc.—£5,522,885
Com., June 1 [72] 99; *Rep., June 2* [72] 284.

Post Office Packet Service—£570,915
Com. June 1* [72] 130; *Rep., June 2* [72] 285.

Prisons in England, Wales, and the Colonies—£415,161
Com., July 7 [74] 194; *Rep.* July 17* [74] 1117.

Privy Council Office—£6,900
Com., July 28 [75] 792; *Rep.* July 31* 942.

Public Works Loan Commission—£13
Com. May 19* [71] 1056; *Rep.* June 1* [72] 158.

Public Works and Buildings Office—£36,393
Com. May 19* [71] 1056; *Rep.* June 1* [72] 159.

Rates on Government Buildings—£209,705
Com., July 28 [75] 791; *Rep.* July 31* [75] 942.

Record Office—£14,300
Com. May 19* [71] 1056; *Rep.* June 1* [72] 158.

Reformatory and Industrial Schools—£124,195
Com., July 7 [74] 214; *Rep.* July 17* [74] 1117.

Registrar-General's Office—£26,884
Com. May 19* [71] 1056; *Rep., June 1* [72] 159.

Revenue Buildings—£228,000
Com., Apr. 10 [69] 767; *Rep., Apr. 12*, 955.

Royal Palaces and Marlborough House—£33,000
Com., Apr. 10 [69] 734; *Rep., Apr. 12*, 954.

Royal Parks and Pleasure Gardens—£79,000
Com., Apr. 11 [69] 745; *Rep., Apr. 12*, 954.

Science and Art Department—£381,793
Com., Aug. 3 [75] 1317; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1497.

Scientific Investigation—£21,724
Com., June 30 [73] 1194.

Scotch Votes
Congested Districts Board—£20,000
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1417; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1559.

Crofters' Commission—£3,000
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1405; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1557.

SUPPLY—*cont.*

Scotch Votes—*cont.*

Education and Science and Art—£701,861
Com., June 16 [72] 1362.

Fishery Board—£16,169
Com., July 14 [74] 941; *Com.* Aug. 3* [75] 1401; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1556.

Local Government Board—£8,000
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1403; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1557.

Lord Advocate's Department—Law Charges and Courts of Law—£60,806
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1405; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1557.

Lunacy Commissions—£3,454
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1317; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1497.

National Gallery, etc.—£2,000
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1333; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1509.

Peterhead Harbour—£17,500
Com., Aug. 3 [75] 1307; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1495.

Prisons—£53,180
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1406; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1558.

Public Education and Science and Art—£701,861
Com., Aug. 3 [75] 1326; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1509.

Register House, Edinburgh—£29,565
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1405; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1557.

Registrar-General's Office—£2,829
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1317; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1497.

Secretary for Scotland—£8,858
Com., July 14 [74] 888; *Rep.* July 17*, 1118.

Secret Services—£13,000
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1399; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1556.

Stationery and Printing—329,579
Com., Aug. 3 [75] 1308; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1495.

Superannuation and Retired Allowances etc.—£287,628
Com. June 1* [72] 157; *Rep.* June 2* [72] 287.

Supplementary Estimates
Q. Mr. Buchanan; A. Mr. A. J. Balfour, *July 20* [74] 1388.

Art and Science Buildings, Great Britain—£20,000
Com., Apr. 10 [69] 767; *Rep., Apr. 12*, 955.

Colonial Office—£2,400
Com., Mar. 10 [68] 465; *Rep., Mar. 13*, 659.

Colonial Services—£139,425
Com., Mar. 10 [68] 465; *Rep., Mar. 13*, 659.

Colonial Services—£367,801
Com., July 31 [75] 945.

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SUPPLY—*cont.*

Supplementary Estimates—*cont.*

County Courts—£10
Com., 573; *Rep.*, 750.

Diplomatic and Consular Buildings—£17,100
Com. Feb. 24 [67] 571; *Rep., Feb. 27*, 749.

Foreign Office Administration—£3,400
Motion withdrawn, Feb. 24 [67] 650; *Rep., Feb. 28*, 915.

Friendly Societies and Savings Banks' Deficiencies — £58,516, *Com. Feb. 24* [67] 574; *Rep., Feb. 27*, 751; *Os.*, Mr. Bartley.

Harbours in the United Kingdom and Lighthouses Abroad under the Board of Trade—£926, *Com., Feb. 24* [67] 572; *Rep., Feb. 27*, 750.

Irish Votes

Pauper Lunatics—£517
Com., Mar. 13 [68] 603; *Rep., Mar. 13*, 659.

Reformatory and Industrial Schools—£1,168
Com. [67] 663; *Rep.*, 916.

Valuation and Boundary Survey —£1,300
Com. [67] 572; *Rep.* 750.

Land Registry, Supplementary Vote—£4,100, *Com., Feb. 24* [67] 573; *Rep., Feb. 24*, 750.

Legal Expenses, Miscellaneous—£36,000, *Com., Apr. 10* [69] 766; *Rep., Apr. 12* [69] 954.

Legal Expenses, Miscellaneous—£500
Com. July 31* [75] 945; *Rep., Aug. 2* [75] 1208.

Mint, including Coinage
Com. Feb. 24 [67] 572; *Rep., Feb. 27*, 750.

Miscellaneous Legal Buildings [Great Britain]—£2,000
Com. [67] 571; *Rep.*, 749.

National Gallery—£11,800
Com. [67] 573; *Rep.*, 750.

Palaces, Royal, and Marlborough House—£4,000, *Com.* Aug. 3* [75] 1379; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1531.

Public Buildings, Great Britain—£166,000, *Com., Apr. 10* [69] 767; *Rep., Apr. 12*, 955.

Public Buildings [Purchase of Portion of Imperial Institute]—£65,000
Com., July 31 [75] 944; *Rep.* Aug. 2* [75] 1208.

Record Office—£891, *Com.* [67] 572; *Rep.* 750.

Excesses—£1,5s. 1d.
Com., Mar. 10 [68] 503; *Rep., Mar. 14*, 660.

SUPPLY—*cont.*

Supplementary Estimates—*cont.*

Repayment to the Local Loans Fund Vote—£1,692
Com. [67] 577; *Rep.*, 752.

Revenue Departments

Post Office Savings Banks, Trustee Saving Banks, etc., Deficiencies —£58,516. *Com.* [67] 574; *Rep.*, 751; *Os.* Mr. Bartley.

Post Office—£96,500. *Com.* [67] 577; *Rep.*, 752.

Post Office Telegraphs—£5,000
Com. [67] 578; *Rep.*, 782.

Royal Palaces and Marlborough House—£5,000
Com. [67] 570; *Rep.*, 749.

Scotch Votes

Register House, Edinburgh — £1,300
Com. [67] 573; *Rep.*, 750.

Superannuation and Retired Allowances—£5,000
Com. [67] 573; *Rep.*, 751.

Temporary Commissions, Special Inquiries, including Grant-in-Aid, Congested Districts Board, Ireland —£23,175, *July 31* [75] 952.

Treasury Chest Fund—£12,114
Com., Feb. 24 [67] 573; *Rep., Feb. 27*, 750.

Uganda, etc.—£256,000
Com., Mar. 10 [68] 450; *Apr. 10* [69] 693; *Rep., Mar. 13* [68] 659.

Supreme Court of Judicature—£206,527
Com. July 7* [74] 192; *Rep.* July 17* [74] 1116.

Survey of the United Kingdom—£130,537
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1379; *Rep., Aug. 4*, 1531.

Telegraph Service—£2,338,390
Com., June 1 [72] 130; *Rep.* June 2* [72] 287.

Trade and Subordinate Departments, Office of Committee of Privy Council—£133,098
Rep., May 12 [71] 544.

Treasury and Subordinate Departments—£59,300
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1387; *Rep.* Aug. 4*, 1537.

Uganda, British Protectorates in, etc., and in Central and East Africa, etc., Grant-in-Aid—£154,463
Com. Aug. 3* [75] 1369; *Rep., Aug. 4*, 1510.

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SUPPLY—*cont.*

Universities and Colleges, Great Britain and Intermediate Education, Wales —£67,700
*Com.** *Aug. 3* [75] 1325; *Rep.** *Aug. 4*, 1509.

Vote on Account, *Feb. 23* [67] 351
Estimate presented, *Mar. 3* [67] 1212.

Wallace Collection—£6,000
Com., *Aug. 3* [75] 1325; *Rep.** *Aug. 4*, 1509.

SUPREME COURT

Clerk's Retirement
Q. Admiral Field; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *Aug. 4* [75] 1483.

Supreme Court [Appeals] Bill

l. 1R.* *Mar. 16* [68] 924.
Com., *Apr. 18* [69] 1434.
3R.* *Apr. 20* [70] 12.
c. 1R.* *Apr. 25*, 508.
2R.* *Apr. 27*, 792.
*Com.** *May 1*, 1070; *May 8* [71] 127.
Com., *May 11* [71] 426.
*Com.** *May 12* [71] 543.
3R.* *May 15* [71] 688.
*Lords Amendts.** *May 16* [71] 835.
l. Royal Assent, *June 6* [72] 409.

SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE

Vote for, *July 7* [74] 192; *July 17*, 1116; *Aug. 3* [75] 1406.

SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE ACT, 1877

Accounts, *Feb. 14* [66] 848.

Orders in Council, *Feb. 8* [66] 179; *Feb. 9*, 262; *Feb. 13*, 654; *Feb. 14*, 815.

Rules, *Feb. 7* [66] 36.

SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE ACT, IRELAND

Orders in Council, *May 18* [71] 299; *June 1* [72] 79; *June 2*, 164.

SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE AMENDMENT ACT, 1875.

South-Eastern Circuit
Order in Council, *June 6* [72] 414, 434.

Surrey Commercial Docks Bill

l. 1R* *Feb. 17* [66] 1241.
2R., *Mar. 13* [68] 510.
Rep., *Mar. 24* [69] 286.
3R.* *Apr. 17*, 1255.
c. 1R., *Apr. 18*, 1439.
2R.* *May 1* [70] 945.
*Rep.** *May 12* [71] 468.
3R.* *May 16* [71] 722.
l. Royal Assent, *June 6* [72] 409.

SURVEY OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

Vote for, *Aug. 3* [75] 1379; *Aug. 4*, 1531.

SURVEYORS OF TAXES

Clerks to
Q. Mr. Johnstone; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *Mar. 9* [68] 304.

SUTER, MR.—Ransom Paid to Brigands
Q. Mr. Pierpoint; *A.* Mr. Brodrick, *July 21* [74] 1540.

SUTHERLAND, J., CASE OF

Gun Licence Prosecution
Q. Mr. Hedderwick; *A.* Sir M. Hicks-Beach, *May 16* [71] 740.

SUTHERLAND, SIR T. [Greenock]

Red Sea Lights, Construction of—Reduction of Dues on Egyptian Lights, etc., *July 20* [74] 1368; *Aug. 3* [75] 1281.

Sugar Bounties, *Feb. 14* [66] 860.

SUTHERLANDSHIRE

Brora—Case of Postman Mackay
Os. Mr. Steadman, Mr. J. O'Connor, *As.* Mr. Hanbury, *Aug. 7* [76] 24.

Justice of the Peace—Appointment of Mr. A. Carnegie
Q. Mr. T. B. Curran; *A.* Mr. A. G. Murray, *Aug. 7* [76] 35.

SUTTON SCHOOLS

Children Begging on Derby Day
Q. Sir S. Montagu; *A.* Mr. Chaplin, *May 16* [71] 739; *O.* Mr. Trevelyan, *June 2* [72] 247; *O.* Mr. Chaplin, 256; *Q.* Mr. Trevelyan; *A.* Mr. Chaplin, *July 17* [74] 1003.

SWEDEN

Trade Report, *July 14* [74] 862.

SWIMMING BATHS

Board Schools
Q. Mr. Tomlinson; *A.* Sir J. Gorst, *Apr. 24* [70] 370.

Brentford Baths
Q. Mr. Bigwood; *A.* Mr. Chaplin, *Feb. 16* [66] 1111.

SWINE FEVER REGULATIONS

Qs. Mr. Warner, Major Rasch, Mr. Strachey; *As.* Mr. Long, *Feb. 17* [66] 1270; *Q.* Mr. L. Morgan; *A.* Mr. Long, *Mar. 7* [68] 22; *Q.* Mr. Hobhouse; *A.* Mr. Long, *Apr. 21* [70] 215; *Q.* Major Rasch; *A.* Mr. Long, *July 25* [75] 235.

Carmarthenshire
Q. Mr. L. Morgan; *A.* Mr. Long, *Feb. 14* [66] 864.

Essex
Qs. Major Rasch, Mr. Round; *As.* Mr. Long, *Apr. 17* [69] 1269.

Lancashire Regulations
Q. Capt. Donelan; *A.* Mr. Long, *Mar. 2* [67] 1016.

Prosecutions
Q. Mr. L. Morgan; *A.* Sir M. W. Ridley, *Apr. 25* [70] 521.

Removal of Swine, etc., *S.*, *Aug. 4* [75] 1550, 1552.

[*cont.*

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SWINE FEVER REGULATIONS—*cont.*

Yorkshire, W.R., Orders—Prohibition of Swine Importation from Ireland
Q. Mr. Field; *A.* Mr. Long, *Aug. 1* [75] 1046.

Huddersfield Regulation
Q. Mr. Carew; A. Mr. Long, *Aug. 3* [75] 1016.

SWITZERLAND

Trade Report, *June 1* [72] 68.

SYNGE, COL.—Ransom Paid to Brigands
Q. Mr. Pierpoint; *A.* Mr. Brodrick, *July 21* [74] 1540.

SYRIA, SOUTH COAST

Trade Report, *June 8* [72] 596.

SZECHUEN, MINING RIGHTS IN—French Claims
Q. Sir E. Sassoon; *A.* Mr. Brodrick, *June 2* [72] 183.

Taff Vale Railway Bill

c. 1R.* *Feb. 14* [66] 843.
2R. *Feb. 27* [67] 592.
*Rep.** *Apr. 21* [70] 202.
*Con.** *May 1*, 945.
3R.* *May 4*, 1289.
l. 1R.* *May 5*, 1390.
2R.* *May 16* [71] 689.
*Rep.** *June 30* [73] 1109.
3R.* *July 4*, 1390
c. Lords Amendts., July 10 [74] 298.
l. Royal Assent, July 13, 663.

TAGANROG

Trade Report, *June 1* [72] 68.

TAIN COURT HOUSE
Q. Mr. Weir; *A.* Mr. A. G. Murray, *Mar. 14* [68] 779.

TALBOT, LORD E. [Sussex, Chichester]

Day School Code, *Apr. 17* [69] 1403.

Pauper Lunatic Asylums in West Riding of Yorkshire—Roman Catholic Inmates, *July 25* [75] 236.

TALBOT, RIGHT HON. J. G. [Oxford University]

Aldershot Sewage Farm, Inspector's Report, *June 2* [72] 177.

Bethnal Green, Erection of Schools by London School Board, *June 12* [72] 900.
Rehousing of Displaced Persons, *June 12* [72] 900; *June 30* [73] 1146.

Board of Education Bill, *July 25* [75] 247; *Con., Aug. 1*, 1077, 1086.

Bottle-washing in Fruit Preserving Factories—Overtime Employment of Women, *May 8* [71] 39; *May 18*, 928; *July 24* [75] 183.

Church Crisis, *Apr. 11* [69] 860.

TALBOT, RT. HON. J. G.—*cont.*

Education Department Provisional Order Confirmation [London], *Con., Aug. 2* [75] 1148.

Education Estimates, *Apr. 28* [70] 862, 875, 876.

Employment of Children of School Age, *May 4* [70] 1300.

Juvenile Offenders, Treatment of, *July 13* [74] 700.

London Government Bill, *Con., June 8* [72] 703, 706.

Matrons at Metropolitan Police Stations, *Mar. 13* [68] 519.

Pen Trade, Applications for Particulars, *May 18* [71] 928.

Reformatory and Industrial Schools, Maintenance in—Parental Contributions, Legislation, *Aug. 3* [75] 1285.

South Shields Poor Law Children Religious Instruction Grievance, *Aug. 7* [76] 22, 88.

Tithe Rent-Charge [Rates] Bill, *Feb. 13* [66] 671; *July 20* [74] 1402.

Workhouses, Religious Ministration in *June 2* [72] 273.

TALIENWAN, *See* China.

TALWATTEE, MR., Death of
O. Lord Stanley of Alderley, *Mar. 23* [69] 288.
Debate [*l.*] *July 27* [75] 479.

Tancred's Charities Scheme Confirmation Bill.

c. 1R.* *Mar. 7* [68] 16.
c. 2R.* *July 31* [75] 938.
*Com.** & 3R.* *Aug. 1*, 1130.
l. 1R.* *Aug. 3*, 1262.
2R.* *Aug. 4*, 1447.
3R.* *Aug. 7* [76] 4.
Royal Assent, *Aug. 9*, 256.

TANGANIKA, LAKE

Extension of Cape Railway to
Q. Mr. B. Roberts; *A.* Sir M. Hicks-Beach, *Apr. 21* [70] 212.

TANGIER

"Tourmaline," *See* that Title.

TANNER, DR. C. K. D. [Cork Co. Mid.]

Allotments, *Mar. 13* [68] 521.

Anglo-American Fisheries Commission, *Feb. 17* [66] 1283.

Bandah Jisseh, *Feb. 17* [66] 1283.

Butter for Irish Troops, *Feb. 9* [66] 318.

Ceylon Land Question, *Mar. 14* [68] 774.

Cork Agricultural Show, *Feb. 9* [66] 328.

Haulbowline Docks—Wages, *Feb. 13* [66] 662.

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TANNER, DR. C. K. D.—*cont.*

Hospital Nurses in Irish Workhouses, *Mar. 14* [68] 777.

Infectious Diseases Notification Act Extension Bill, *Mar. 14* [68] 838.

Jury Packing, alleged, *Feb. 13* [66] 677.

Killinardrish Postal Arrangements, *Mar. 13* [68] 521.

Kolat Goldfields, *Feb. 17* [66] 1284.

Pharmacy Acts, *Feb. 13* [66] 663.

Queen Mary's Schools, *Mar. 23* [69] 275.

Registration, *Mar. 13* [68] 524.

Russian Railways in Afghanistan, *Feb. 17* [66] 1283.

Samoa Rising, *Feb. 17* [66] 1284.

Workmen's Dwellings in Ireland, *Feb. 9* [66] 318.

TARA, RUINS OF

Illegal Excavation
Qs. Mr. J. P. Farrell, Mr W. Johnston; *As.* Mr. Hanbury, *June 20* [73] 73.

TARBERT HARBOUR

Naval Training Cruiser, Proposed
Q. Mr. Flavin; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *June 20* [73] 60.

TARIFF ACT, INDIA, 1899

Motion [Sir H. H. Fowler] *June 15* [72] 1199.

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TASMANIA

Amended Federal Bill, Adoption of
Q. Mr. Hogan; *A.* Mr. J. Chamberlain, *July 28* [75] 672.

Tauranga, H.M.S.

Coaling at Auckland
Q. Mr. Hogan; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *Aug. 7* [76] 10.

Visit to Tonga, etc.
Qs. Mr. Hogan; *As.* Mr. Brodrick, *May 16* [71] 730; *June 8* [72] 630; *June 13*, 1064.

TAX DISTRICTS

New Districts, Formation of—Assistant Surveyors, etc.
Q. Mr. J. H. Johnstone; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *June 29* [73] 985.

TAXATION

Clerical Incomes, *See* Tithe Rent-charge [Rates] Bill

Consuls, Foreign, Exemption from
Q. Mr. Dillon; *A.* Mr. Brodrick, *June 8* [72] 627.

Ground Rents, Taxation by Local Authorities, *See* that Title.

Local Taxation, *See* that Title.

Taxes and Imposts—Return, *Apr. 20* [70] 31; *Aug. 3* [75] 1269.

TAYLOR, W., *Surgeon-General*

Q. Capt. Norton; *A.* Mr. J. P. Williams, *Apr. 18* [69] 1461.

TEA

Adulteration—Inquiry, etc.
Q. Sir F. Flannery; *A.* Mr. Goschen, *June 8* [72] 645; *Q.* Mr. Carew; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *June 9*, 775.

Assam Plantations—Report
Q. Mr. Schwann; *A.* Lord G. Hamilton, *June 12* [72] 897.

Duty on—
Budget Resolution, *Apr. 20* [70] 67—Report, *Apr. 21*, 215.
Finance Bill, *May 11* [71] 366.

Samples—United States Restrictions, Postal Regulations
Q. Mr. Lough; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *July 25* [75] 239.

TEACHERS

Dem National School, Reduction of Mr. Galligan's Salary
Q Mr. P. O'Brien; *A.* Mr. G. W. Balfour, *Aug. 1* [75] 1059.

National School Teachers, Ireland, *See* that Title.

Poor Law Schools, Trained Teachers
Q. Mr. W. Jones; *A.* Mr. Chaplin, *July 7* [74] 175.

Scotland
Dismissal of Teachers by School Boards—Right of Appeal, *S.*, *June 16* [72] 1401, 1421.

Marriage Gratuities
Q. Mr. Weir; *A.* Mr. A. G. Murray, *May 12* [71] 481.

Superannuation
Q. Mr. Nicol; *A.* Mr. A. G. Murray, *Mar. 9* [68] 265; *Q.* Mr. Buchanan; *A.* Mr. A. G. Murray, *June 9* [72] 773.
References to, in Debate in Com. of Supply, *June 16* [72].

Rules, *Apr. 10* [69] 1436, 681; *Apr. 18*, 1429, 1441.

Training Colleges
Os. Mr. Colville, *May 19* [71] 1051; Mr. Caldwell, 1054.

Report
Q. Mr. Weir; *A.* Mr. W. E. Macartney, *May 19* [71] 1021.

Superannuation
Q. Mr. Dalziel; *A.* Mr. A. G. Murray, *July 18* [74], 1171.

Reformatory and Industrial Schools—Masters and Matrons
Q. Mr. Bill; *A.* Sir M. W. Ridley, *June 12* [72], 901.

Rules, *Apr. 10* [69] 681; *Apr. 18*, 1441.

Scotland, *See* that Subheading.

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Vaccination
Pupil Teachers—Colchester Board School Case
Q. Sir W. Pearson; *A.* Sir J. Gorst, *June 23* [73] 443.
Richardson, F. H., Case of
Q. Mr. Mellor; *A.* Sir J. Gorst, *July 20*, [74] 1382.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION
See Title Secondary and Technical Education.

Teinds [Scotland] Bill
c. 1R., *Mar. 23* [69] 130.
Petitions, *May 19* [71] 1019; *June 2* [72] 175; *June 14*, 1090.

TELEGRAMS
Abbreviated Addresses
Q. Mr. Sidebotham; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *Mar. 10* [68] 436; *Q.* Mr. Knowles; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *July 28* [75] 676; *Q.* Mr. Trevelyan; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *Aug. 4* [75] 1481.
Keith, Mr., Case of
Q. Mr. J. Wilson; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *Aug. 1* [75] 1050.
Lonie, R., Case of
Qs. Mr. Clare, Mr. Knowles; *As.* Mr. Hanbury, *July 27* [75] 501.
Charges—International Conference
Q. Mr. R. G. Webster; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *June 30* [73] 1150.
Free Delivery
Q. Mr. Englidew; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *Feb. 16* [66] 1089.
Foreign, Colonial & Indian—Reduction of Rates, Agreements, etc.
Q. Sir E. Sassoon; *A.* Mr. Brodrick, *Aug. 8* [76] 164.
Inaccuracies—Liability of Postmaster-General
Q. Mr. MacNeill; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *May 19* [71] 1028.
International—Telegraph Companies Joint—Purse Agreement
Q. Sir C. Dilke; *A.* Lord G. Hamilton, *Aug. 8*, [76] 162.
Irish Missing Telegrams—McHall *v.* Sullivan
Q. Mr. Davitt; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *July 24*, [75] 81; *July 31*, 849; *Qs.* Mr. T. P. O'Connor, Mr. Hanbury, *Aug. 7* [76] 133.
Oldham—Delay in transmission
Q. Mr. Ascroft; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *May 15* [71] 602; *Q.* Mr. Ascroft; *A.* Mr. Anstruther, *June 8* [72] 658.
Press Telegraphic Messages—Manchestet Post Office and Old Trafford Cricket Match
Q. Sir J. Leng; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *July 24* [75] 80.
Regulations, *Feb. 9* [66] 263.

Telegraph Act (1892) Amendment Bill.
c. 1R.* *Mar. 6* [67] 1335.

Telegraph (Channel Islands) Bill.
l. 1R., *Feb. 27* [67] 589.
2R., *Mar. 2*, 1005.
Com., *Mar. 6*, 1333.
3R.* *Mar. 7* [68] 4.
c. 1R., *Mar. 13*, 516.
2R., *July 25* [75] 363.

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Belfast Offices
Q. Mr. Arnold Forster; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *Mar. 9* [68] 271; *Q.* Mr. Young; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *Mar. 29* [68] 273; *Q.* Mr. Macaleese; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *July 17* [74] 1009.
Bellewstown Telegraph Office, Delay in Establishment
Q. Mr. P. O'Brien; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *July 24* [75] 79.
Congested Districts, Scotland
Qs. Mr. Weir; *As.* Mr. A. G. Murray *Mar. 3* [67] 1217; *July 11* [74] 479.
Curzon Street, Insanitary Condition—Female Telegraphists' Complaints
Q. Col. Dalbiac; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *July 31* [75] 849.
Govan—Charges
Q. Mr. J. Wilson; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *Feb. 27* [67] 610.
Hanley Telegraphic Accommodation
Q. Mr. Woodall; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *July 27* [75] 500.
Hilltown, County Down
Q. Mr. M'Carlan; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *Mar. 7* [68] 29.
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Q. Mr. E. M'Hugh; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *Mar. 23* [69] 133.
Rosslea, Telegraph Office Proposed
Q. Mr. Jordan; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *June 22* [73] 276.
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Q. Mr. Sullivan; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *Mar. 16* [67] 1348.
Samshiri, Need of Telegraph Station
Q. Mr. Ascroft; *A.* Mr. Brodrick, *May 11* [71] 344.

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Account, *Feb. 10* [66] 470.
Ballindine Deliveries
Q. Mr. Davitt; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *Mar. 23* [69] 142.
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Casquets, Communication with
Q. Mr. Richards; *A.* Mr. Ritchie, *April 13* [69] 970.
Companies Subsidies, Vote for, *Aug. 3* [75] 1375; *Aug. 4*, 1520.
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Lanesborough—Telegraphic Communication
Q. Mr. J. P. Farrell; *A.* Mr. Hanbury, *June 29* [73] 275.

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It has been deemed desirable to revert to the style and plan followed in previous Sessions (which were found to give general satisfaction), and the Indices to the earlier Volumes have been re-adjusted as far as possible.

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